

THE CROMWELL ARGUS

AND NORTHERN GOLD-FIELDS GAZETTE.

No. 7, Vol. I.)

CROMWELL, OTAGO: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1869.

(PRICE, SIXPENCE.)

Cromwell Advertisements



THE PEOPLE'S BAKERY.

J. SCOTT.

BREAD AND BISCUIT BAKER,

Melmore-street, Cromwell.

For Families waited on for orders, and Bread regularly delivered in all parts of the district.

BRIDGE HOTEL, CROMWELL.

JOHN MARSH,

Or the Bridge Hotel, Cromwell.

IS DETERMINED TO GIVE VALUE FOR MONEY.



CROMWELL VETERINARY

SKINKING FORGE

Next door to Smitham's Kawarau Hotel.

EDWARD LINDSAY,

(Late of Clyde and Melbourne),

GENERAL BLACKSMITH, FARRIER,

AND MACHINIST.

E. L. begs to inform the public of Cromwell that he has purchased the business of Mr Thompson, and trusts by strict attention to business, and the execution of all work placed in his hands in a first-class and workmanlike manner, to continue the support accorded his predecessor.

Cromwell Advertisements

CROMWELL HOTEL,

CROMWELL.

ROBERT KIDD, PROPRIETOR.

The travelling public and Commercial Gentlemen will find this the most convenient house to put up at in Cromwell. There are excellent bed, private sitting, and dining rooms, and attached to the establishment is a magnificent Billiard Saloon, and the largest hall for Concerts, Balls, or Theatrical Representations out of Dunedin.

Excellent Stabling, &c.

CROMWELL.

M R M A N D E R S,

LEGAL AND MINING AGENT.

Registered to practise in the Warden's Courts for the Dunstan Goldfields.

Agent for the Northern Fire and Life Insurance Company (capital Two Millions).

W. H. W H E T T E R,

BOOTMAKER,

MELMORE-STREET, CROMWELL.

A large and varied stock of Home and Colonial made Boots and Shoes on hand, to which attention is respectfully requested.

PRICES MODERATE.

DAGG'S

CLUTHA HOTEL,

CROMWELL.

Best Accommodation for Visitors.

PRETTY FAIR LIQUOR.

FIRST-CLASS STABLING.

GINGERBEER & CORDIALS.

TO THE INHABITANTS
OF THE
CROMWELL DISTRICT.

THE Undersigned begs leave to intimate to the public that he is prepared to supply them with GINGERBEER and CORDIALS, of a superior description, and at prices to defy competition.

GINGERBEER 3s. PER DOZ.

CORDIALS 20s. PER DOZ.

Encourage Local Industry, and Patronise

JOHN M. KELLY.

GOLDEN AGE HOTEL, CROMWELL.

Cromwell Advertisements

JUNCTION COMMERCIAL HOTEL,

CROMWELL.

G. W. GOODGER,

PROPRIETOR.

IN returning thanks for past favors, begs to announce that neither trouble nor expense have been spared to render the above establishment second to none upon the Goldfields.

Being situated in the very centre of the town, it affords every convenience for Commercial Travellers and others visiting the Cromwell district.

The Bedrooms, Private Parlors, &c., Are fitted up with every regard to comfort and convenience.

The BILLIARD SALOON (the largest in the district) is provided with one of Alcock's Tables.

Extra attention has been bestowed upon the STABLING DEPARTMENT, and as it has been placed under the management of an experienced groom, the public may rely upon every care being taken of horses.

FOR SALE,

VALUABLE FREEHOLD PROPERTY

AND

BAKERY BUSINESS
IN CROMWELL.

The undersigned beg to announce that they have decided on disposing of their well-known and old-established Business, as Bakers and General Storekeepers, together with the Freehold Section in Melmore-street, Cromwell, on which is erected—

BAKEHOUSE, SHOP, DWELLING HOUSE, AND STABLING.

Also,
FREEHOLD SECTION,

Situated on the hill immediately above Mr Smitham's Kawarau Hotel.

Owing to the largely increasing prosperity of the Cromwell District, the above is a splendid opening.

For Particulars, apply to

COUSSAR & SMITH,
Cromwell.

SHAMROCK STORE,

CROMWELL.

WILLIAM SHANLEY & Co.,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

WINE, SPIRIT, AND PROVISION

MERCHANTS.

A large and varied assortment of

WINES, SPIRITS, AND GROCERIES.

Goods delivered in all parts of the district,

free of charge.

Cromwell Advertisements

KAWARAU HOTEL,

CROMWELL.

WILLIAM SMITHAM, PROPRIETOR.

The best conducted and most comfortable Hotel in the District.

A FIRST-CLASS BILLIARD ROOM,
With one of Alcock's best Tables.

Coaches leave for Queenstown and Arrow every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 9 a.m.; for Clyde every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 3.30 p.m.; and for Cardrona and Albertown every Wednesday at 9 a.m.

N.B.—W. S. having erected a large range of Stabling, would intimate to Travellers that every care will be bestowed upon horses. An experienced groom in attendance.

[A CARD.]

R. F. BADGER,

LEGAL AND MINING AGENT,

MELMORE-STREET,

CROMWELL;

AND AT BENDIGO GULLY.

[A CARD.]

JAMES CORSE, M.D.,

CROMWELL.

May be consulted daily at his residence,

MELMORE-STREET.

CROMWELL.



FREE TRADE BUTCHERY,

(Wholesale and Retail),

JAMES DAWKINS, PROPRIETOR.

A supply of Beef, Mutton, Veal, Pork, Hams, Bacon, &c., always on hand.

Meat delivered at Town Prices throughout the district.

Kawarau Gorge Advertisements

DIGGER'S REST HOTEL,

KAWARAU GORGE.

NICHOLAS CAMPION,
Proprietor.

Wines and Spirits of the best description.

STABLING.

SLUICER'S ARMS HOTEL,

KAWARAU GORGE,

JOHN WRIGHTSON,
Proprietor.

GOOD ACCOMMODATION FOR TRAVELLERS.

GOOD STABLING. Three Loose Boxes, second to none.

BILLIARDS.

WHITE HART HOTEL,

KAWARAU GORGE,

(On the main road to Queenstown),

THOMAS HERON,
Proprietor.

GOOD ACCOMMODATION FOR TRAVELLERS.

CROMWELL

JOCKEY CLUB RACES.

THURSDAY & FRIDAY,
30th and 31st December 1869.

Stewards:

W. SMITHAM I. LOUGHANAN J. W. GARRETT
J. WRIGHTSON J. DAWKINS J. COWAN
W. J. BARRY J. A. PRISHAW T. LOGAN.

Judge:

R. LOUGHANAN.

Starter:

J. DAWKINS.

Treasurer:

J. A. PRISHAW.

Clerk of the Course:

W. J. BARRY.

Secretary:

ROBERT E. DAGG.

FIRST DAY, THURSDAY,

Dec. 30.

Maiden Plate

Of 30 sovs. for all horses that have never won an advertised race (hack and matches excepted). Weight for age. Distance, a mile and a-half. Entrance £2 2s.

Town Plate

Of 75 sovs. Weight for age. Distance, three miles. Entrance £4 4s.

Hurdle Race

Of 30 sovs. Twice round the Course—about three miles. Over eight flights of hurdles. No weight less than 10st 11lb. Entrance £2 2s.

Publicans' Purse Handicap

Of 40 sovs., with a sweepstake of £1 1s, the sweepstakes to go to the second horse. Distance, two miles. Nomination, with £1 1s, to be sent in on or before Monday, 20th December; acceptance, with £2 2s, on the night of general entry. Weights to be declared as in District Handicap.

Hack Race

Of 15 sovs. One mile; heats. No weight less than 10st 11lb. Post Entry, £1 1s.

SECOND DAY, FRIDAY,

Dec. 31.

Miners' Purse

Of 15 sovs. For all untrained horses. No horse allowed to run that has won over £20 of public money. No weights less than 10st 11lb. One mile heats. Post Entry, £1 1s.

District Handicap

Of 100 sovs. Sweepstakes of £2 2s each; second horse to receive the amount of sweepstakes. Nominations, with £2 2s, to be made on or before Monday, 20th December. Acceptance, £3 3s, to be paid the night of general entry. Weights to be declared on the 23rd December. Distance, 2½ miles. Winner of Town Plate to carry 5lbs penalty.

Ladies' Purse

Of 30 sovs. Two miles. Gentleman riders. Welter Weights for age. Entrance, £2 2s, to be paid on the night of general entry.

Handicap Trotting Race

Of 15 sovs. Three miles. Post Entry, £1 1s.

Consolation Handicap

Of 20 sovs. For all beaten horses. Mile and a-half. Entrance, £1 1s.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

1. No entry will be received unless upon these conditions—That all disputes, claims, and objections arising out of the races shall be decided by the Stewards, or a majority of them, whose decisions upon all points connected with the carrying out of the programme shall be final.

2. No person shall enter or nominate a horse unless he is a subscriber of not less than £2 2s. to the Race Fund. Moreover, no one to enter or nominate a horse not his bona fide property, unless the said subscription of £2 2s. be paid for the actual owner, under penalty of forfeiting any race such horse may win.

3. The entries to be sealed, addressed to the Secretary Cromwell Jockey Club, and forwarded to him on or before the 29th December, at eight p.m., entrance money to be enclosed, with name, age, and pedigree (if any) of the horse, name of the owner, and the colours of the rider.

The Rules of the Dunstan Jockey Club will be strictly adhered to.

Five per cent. will be deducted from all winners.

English News.

Mr Gladstone's visit to her Majesty has terminated, and the right hon. gentleman left Balmoral on September 25. The right hon. gentleman, accompanied by Mrs Gladstone and daughters, has arrived at Hawarden Castle, Flintshire, where he will remain four or five weeks. Mr Gladstone has been suffering from illness. A correspondent gives a gloomy picture of his general appearance on his return from Walmer Castle, where he had sought repose. He says:—"The three weeks of absolute repose and sea air have apparently done nothing towards improving his health, and he looks infinitely more careworn, and seems to possess even less constitutional vigour, than he looked a few days before the close of the session." The same correspondent says he has seen Mr Gladstone seven times since his return to London, and that "the sunken eyes, the pale face, the nervous glance, the shuffling gait, the stooping shoulders, the quick, shirking movement, all betokened a nervous system in a high state of tension, and a physical frame in a condition of lamentable exhaustion." It is to be hoped the picture, though the work of a friendly hand, is greatly overdrawn.

The alarm in the cities on the west coast of South America, owing to the prediction of M. Fial, that some great convulsion of nature would visit and destroy the coast about October 1, has been raised to a fearful height by shocks of earthquake having been felt at Copiapo, Iquique, Arica, and many other places. Business was at a standstill, and the people were flying in all directions from the supposed doomed localities.

It is now confidently asserted that, in addition to closing Woolwich and Deptford dockyards, the Government has decided on the abolition of Sheerness as a naval establishment, as soon as the requisite arrangements connected with the change can be carried out. The only dockyards and naval establishments which will thus be retained are those at Chatham, Portsmouth, Devonport, and Pembroke. The Woolwich dockyard, which in some form or other has been in existence for 300 years, was closed on September 17. The Admiralty have notified within the last few days their willingness to sell or let the dockyard. It is worth, at the lowest computation, a million sterling, and assuming that Government were willing to accept a tenant, to pay only 2½ per cent. on the value, it would produce an annual rental of £25,000.

A correspondent of an English paper suggests the use of a galvanic battery instead of a "cat" for the punishment of criminals. He is of opinion that a daily succession of shocks for a month would be worse than a flogging, and free from all chance of inflicting permanent injury.

Mr James Young, chiefly known as the proprietor of certain paraffin oil works in Scotland, has presented 10,000 guineas for the permanent endowment of a chair of technical chemistry in the Andersonian University, Glasgow, with liberty to found scholarships and bursaries in connection therewith.

M. Armand, a French savant, has stated to the Academy of sciences that he has discovered a sure antidote to nicotine. The antidote is nothing less than the common watercress. It destroys the poisonous effects of nicotine, and yet does not alter the aroma of tobacco. A solution of watercress may, therefore, be employed for steeping the leaves of tobacco, and would thus effectually divest them of their noxious properties; moreover, a draught of the same will act as a sure antidote to nicotine.

A Swedish chemist has come to the conclusion that the Egyptian mummies are not all, as has been said and believed for thousands of years, bodies embalmed by any process of preservation whatever, but that they are really the bodies of individuals whose lives have been momentarily suspended, with the intention of restoring them at some future time, only the secret of preservation has been lost. He took a snake, and treated it in such a manner as to benumb it as though it had been carved in marble, and it was so brittle that had he allowed it to fall, it would have broken into fragments. In this state he kept it for one or several years, and then restored it to life by sprinkling it with a stimulating fluid, the composition of which is his secret. The professor is reported to have sent a petition to the Government requesting that a criminal who has been condemned to death may be given to him, to treat in the same manner as the snake, promising to restore him to life in two years.

A romantic case of cutting and wounding at Stratford-on-Avon has had a romantic termination. The prisoner, Charlotte Burchell, a young girl, attempted to cut the throat of Arthur Stephens, the son of a farmer with whom she had lived, and threatened to renew the attack unless he eloped with her. He consented, and they walked all night through a storm of wind and rain; but on reaching Stratford next day, the girl was arrested, and taken before the magistrates. Stephens, however, refused to appear against his sweetheart, and she was discharged.

It is stated that the Bishop of Lichfield is improving in health. His lordship is staying at Whitby, and the bracing air seems to have a beneficial effect upon him. Robert Moffat, the African missionary, now in his 75th year, is purposing to return to his native land. The 200-mile journey in waggons over the untraced country, and bridgeless currents from the Kuruman to the Orange River, is an arduous undertaking for him at his advanced age, but he retains his full vigour of mind, if not of body.

The cruise of the combined Channel and Mediterranean fleets, under the flag of the First Lord of the Admiralty, is now at an end; and the results of the trials and observations made are of much practical interest to the country, which has learnt with satisfaction that it is in possession of a thoroughly seaworthy and fairly efficient iron-clad squadron—one which, despite all its defects, is second to none in the world.

The *Lancet*, in an article on the subject of high-heeled boots, remarks that "the custom of wearing high boot-heels, and those, too, so much smaller than the actual heel of the wearer as to afford no solid support, but only a balancing-point, is a source of much mischief, because it throws the centre of gravity of the body so far forward that a free and gracefully erect carriage is impossible, and there being no firm support to the heel, ladies are very apt to twist the ankle suddenly by overbalancing themselves; and then the effect of driving the foot constantly forward into the toe of the boot is to produce a very ugly and painful distortion of the great toe joint."

The following professionals will form the cricketing team for Australia:—J. C. Shaw, A. Shaw, J. Osceoff, F. Silcock, Willsher, Marten, Jupp, Pooley, Griffiths, Humphrey, and Southerton. The voyage will be made early in October.

It is rumoured in well-informed quarters that Sir H. F. Young, who was Lieutenant-Governor in 1847, will succeed Sir Philip Wodehouse as Governor at the Cape.

The last West India mail brought intelligence of fresh earthquakes at St. Thomas, but no lives had been lost.

During the festivities at Königsberg (in Prussia) on Sept. 13, in honour of the visit of the King, a deplorable accident occurred. Owing to the crush of spectators, the railings of a bridge gave way. Twenty-four dead bodies, belonging to persons of various ranks in society, were recovered from the water.

The explosion of petroleum in a lighter at Bordeaux on the 28th of September, caused the destruction of nearly twenty ships that were lying at the wharves. The lighter was drifted by the flood tide among the shipping, and, unfortunately, the authorities attempted to extinguish the flames by submerging the boat. The consequence of this was that large patches of burning oil floated on the water, and being carried by the rising tide, set fire to many distant vessels that otherwise would have been safe.

London Theatrical Gossip.

Miss Julia Mathews has concluded a most successful tour through the provinces. This clever young lady is indeed in great request just now. She commences a long engagement on October 25 at the Standard Theatre, where she will once more play the Grand Duchess. The Christmas arrangements are already perfected at Covent Garden Theatre, where Miss Julia Mathews will sustain the principal character in the comic opera "Le Châlet."

Mr Jefferson terminated his engagement at Booth's New York Theatre on Sept. 18. He has been wonderfully successful. The treasurer of the theatre was compelled to erect an extra ticket-office to accommodate the crowds that this gentleman nightly attracted.

Clarance Holt is now part-proprietor of the Theatre Royal at Croydon.

Lady Don has been doing a round of her favourite characters in Portsmouth and other provincial towns. The press seems unanimous in pronouncing her acting and singing excellent, and she has been drawing overflowing houses.

Professor Anderson and his talented daughters have been once more before the English public at Greenwich; and Wizard Jacobs has been performing at Herne Bay, Scarborough, and other fashionable watering-places.

Mademoiselle Victoria, the youthful and talented "Queen of the Lofty Wire," has been engaged for Australia for the whole of the year 1870.

Tom Lenton's Australian Boys have migrated further west, and made their appearance at the Royal Amphitheatre and Circus, Holborn, at its opening on Oct. 2. The company is one of the largest, best, and most skilful that has ever been brought together in this country, and Lenton's pupils are amongst the leaders of it. While the Boys were travelling in Australia with the Japanese troupe, they got up some of their leading tricks, such as the tub and ladder balancing, and now perform them with a greater finish and neatness than the "Japanese" do.

George Fawcett will play at the Olympic shortly as Micawber. He is a versatile actor, and will do well in London.

It is reported that Lyster is in Italy, on the look-out for some lyric artists for Australia.—*European Mail*.

American News.

A despatch from St. Louis states that the Indians are still troublesome in New Mexico. Trains are attacked, and much stock run off.

A steam boiler exploded, on October 1, at an agricultural fair near Indianapolis, Indiana. Nineteen persons were killed and nearly 100 injured.

The ladies are progressing in America in more ways than one. At Dorchester, Massachusetts, a Miss Katie Murphy won \$300 at a jumping match, having jumped 11ft. 2in., to 10ft. 9in. leaped by a young man named Michael Flynn.

A man named Recker was picked up in the sea near New York by the propeller Delaware, from New York to Norwich, Conn., on August 27th. His story is that he was thrown overboard from the steamer Old Colony, on which he was a passenger from New York to Boston, after having been drugged and robbed.

A terrible affray took place at a barbecue at Wilderville, Tennessee, on August 26, in which William Butt, Irving Butt, his son, and William Andrews were killed, and Thomas L. Taylor, Bay Stewart, Bill Andrews, and James Andrews were wounded, the first two severely. Dr Robbins was hit by a ball, although not engaged in the row. Rum, it seems, was the disturbing element at work.

A proposition is said to be mooted among some Western Congressmen to pass a Bill at the next session authorising a connection of the James and Kanawha Rivers, by means of 400 miles of canal, with the Mississippi, thus opening a new water route from the far West to the seaboard. Norfolk is the city that is to become one of the great ports of the Union by this enterprise.

The *New York Times* says it is no longer a State secret that Mr Motley has been instructed to notify Lord Clarendon that whenever it is thought best to renew negotiations for a settlement of the Alabama claims, it will be done at Washington. The subject has been very recently the theme of an important correspondence between representative parties in England and the United States, and the most favorable proposals which the English Government is supposed to be prepared to make were communicated, but they were not such proposals as the Government of the United States would entertain for a moment. It is not probable that Mr Motley, up to this time, has been encouraged to expect any more acceptable terms than these from Mr Gladstone.

New Hampshire boasts of a boy, but 11 years old, who is "extremely vicious and headstrong";—so much so, indeed, that on the 4th September he entered a room where old Mrs Sparhawk, his grandmother, was sitting with a Mrs Starkweather, and shot the former lady dead with a small revolver, so quickly that Mrs Starkweather could not tell who fired the shot. At first he denied having any knowledge of the affair; but at the inquest, with "true childish candour," he confessed that he was the murderer, adding apologetically that he "wanted to get the old critter out of the way." It seems that Master Sparhawk had planned the murder for a month, and that matters were brought to a crisis by a few words he had with his aged relative concerning the duty of obedience.

The Mormons, it is reported, are discussing the propriety of their abolishing polygamy, and David Smith, the son of the founder of the sect, has been denouncing the practice in his sermons lately delivered at Salt Lake City. Brigham Young is also reported to have told Mr Colfax, two years ago, that it was not improbable a new revelation might be received abolishing polygamy, and a change may be expected. The Pacific Railroad has been completed, and the difficulties experienced in 1857 in sending out troops and supplies to Utah will not be incurred. Polygamy is forbidden by the laws of the United States; and if the present or future administrations endeavor to enforce the statute, the success of the United States army will be certain. David Smith, who is reported to be a man of education and influence, is under thirty years of age; while Brigham Young is ignorant, and his powers are on the decline. The influence of the reform party, it is supposed, will be very great, and will effect a change in the customs.

Considerable excitement exists in East Davenport and Gilbert Town in consequence of a man returning from a shooting excursion stating that he saw what he first took for some wild animal crouching by the bank of a river. It suddenly sprang in, and emerged with a fish which it devoured ravenously. Getting closer to it he discovered it was a boy apparently about fifteen or sixteen, entirely without clothes, and covered with light sandy hair, of a silky appearance. He plainly saw the face, and describes it as revoltingly ugly and brutal in its aspect. He attempted to approach it, but the creature became alarmed and, taking to the water, swam to a neighbouring island, and hid among the sedges. On returning home he gave information, and a close look-out has been kept. The creature, whatever it may be, has been seen twice since, and the Wild Boy of the Woods will doubtless be shortly captured.

The Late Terrible Disaster on the Erie Railway.

The Port Jervis correspondent of the *New York Times*, writing on the 17th of August, says:—"One of the most fiendish crimes which it has been our lot to record has just come to light, in the confession of one John Bowen that he was the author of the terrible disaster at Carr's Rock, which occurred on the morning of the 15th April, 1866, whereby a score or more souls were hurried into eternity in an instant, and 50 or 60 persons were badly wounded, seven of whom afterwards died from the effects of their injuries. The perpetrator of this heinous crime has been lying in gaol at Milford, Pennsylvania, on a double charge of having torn up the railroad track with the intention of throwing off trains, and of perjury in attempting to fasten the guilt on an innocent man. About five months ago, the Erie Railway Company offered a reward of \$2000 for the detection of any one who should put obstructions on the track or tamper with the fastenings of the rails of the road for the purpose of throwing off the trains. On the 28th of May last, on a dark night, Bowen reported to the Company's watchman at Stairway, seven miles west of Port Jervis, that he had just caught a man at work near by tampering with the rails. The watchman went with Bowen to the spot designated, and found the rail loosened. Bowen was sent for to New York, and on the strength of his statements, a farmer named James Knight was arrested, on suspicion of being the author of the deed. Knight was tried, and fully exonerated; and it ended in Bowen being arrested and incarcerated in the gaol at Milford, Pennsylvania, where he made a confession acknowledging himself to be the guilty party, and exonerating Knight. He stated the motives of the crime to be to secure the reward of \$2000 which had been offered. Ever since the disaster at Carr's Rock, it has been the opinion of some that the accident was occasioned by parties intent on plunder, and not by the simple breaking of a rail. Representations were accordingly made to this effect by the Company, who placed skilful detectives on the watch, and the result has been (as before stated) the incarceration in gaol of John Bowen on a charge of tearing up the railroad track at divers times, and committing perjury by charging James Knight with the offence.

Yesterday, Bowen sent word to the Division-Superintendent, G. S. Bedington, that he had something important to reveal in relation to the accident at Carr's Rock. He then made the following confession:—

"I reside in Orange County. I have read the Bible and prayed lately, and hope to get some of my sins pardoned. I may not live long and don't like to die with so much on my conscience. I wish to lighten it a little. About between summer and fall, three years ago, on the Erie Railway, between the Delaware Bridge, at Sawmill Rift, and Kennedy's cut, I was going along (I was not working for the Company) one day, and I kicked a stone from the middle of the road to the edge of the track against the chair; there it lodged. I didn't think it would do any damage; but it did; it started two or three cars off the track. Sometime in February, one year ago, there was a crooked rail at Rosa's Switch, near the chair. I took a piece of iron and pushed the rail out of the chair, and raised it up and put a spike under it at the bended place on a second quarter tie. I shoved it back into the chair, but it wouldn't go in without something heavy to force it in. I left at that, and along came a freight train and broke it off, and the train ran off down the bank. About the 15th, a year ago last March (April), at three o'clock in the morning, I came down the track (I left my place early, and had been at Lackawaxen). I went to see about a silver mine I had burning out there. I dropped a stone on my foot, which hurt me, so I walked slowly down the track, until I came to Carr's Rock. There a freight train passed me. It was going west, and I stepped a ile until it passed me. I saw a crooked rail on the riverside, which was working up and down as the train passed. I took a piece of the cap of a rail, and tried to fix it as well as I could. I shoved the rail out of the chair and put a block under it to raise it. I put a spike under the quarter tie, in order to make it come straight in its place again. I didn't think it was going to do any damage at all. I travelled on from half-a-mile to three-quarters down the track, when I heard a great noise. I thought it was the stones slipping down into the water. Instead of the stones, it was a train going east, and in two or three days I heard it was the train that slipped down, not the stones. That was the Carr's Rock calamity! I felt very sorry from that time to this. Since I have been here, I don't sleep at nights. Before any of these occurrences, I had been employed by the Erie Company. I was sent to gaol by the Company, under a charge of forgery. I knew when I put the spike under the rail that if a heavy train came upon the rail it would break it, but that if the train came from the east it would drive it down. I didn't know from which direction the next train was coming."

"JOHN BOWEN."

Provincial and General.

A correspondent of the *Grey River Argus* writes:—"An amusing incident occurred here a few days ago, which illustrates the truth of the old adage, 'Where there's a will there's a way.' A resident in the neighborhood obtained admission to the Resident Magistrate's Court at the town, against another resident for goods sold and delivered. An order of the Court for immediate payment was issued, and then the question arose, 'How was it to be served on defendant?' He was known to be planted somewhere in the vicinity of Reid's station. The plaintiff went there, but as soon as the man he was in search of saw him approach he bolted, and as he is young and active, and can run like a deer, he soon left his pursuer behind. However, that acute individual was not to be 'bested,' so he returned to the Junction, and after hiring a horse and saddle for a lady, he disguised himself in female attire. When the finishing touch was put on (in the shape of one of Mrs B's window curtains, which was made to do duty as a puggaree), he made a fresh start, accompanied by a male friend. When they came in sight of the station, the 'lady' adjusted herself in a ladylike position in the saddle; and as they came nearer, she saw the object of her fond solicitude leisurely and unsuspectingly airing himself in front of the house. The pair rode up to the hut, and I—true to his reputation for gallantry and politeness, came forward and offered to assist the lady to dismount. She thanked him, with, I have no doubt, a sweet smile on her face, if her face could have been seen through the window curtain, and just requested him, in a deliciously-confidential whisper, 'to take charge of that small parcel for her,'—handing him (upside-down) the order of the Court, neatly enclosed, and addressed to himself. A loud and very unfeminine guffaw from the lady, and another from her protector made, I—suspect that he had been at it. The lady did not dismount, but I—that she left the skirt of her riding in I—s hands, which I have no will come in handy for saddle-clothes."

The *Lyttelton Times* says that it is able to state that Mr Redwood of a half-share in Manuka to Mr Pett, Melbourne for the sum of £500. Redwood still retains a half interest in horse.

A Berlin paper of the 5th of September states that the King of Prussia has caused a half-length life-sized portrait of him to be sent as a present to the P. Library, Melbourne.

Committees have been formed in Christchurch, for the purpose of raising funds to purchase a peal of eight bells for that city. The cost is estimated at £600 for the bells, and £300 for the bell tower. "The bells to be rung every Sunday, morning and evening services, holidays, and all marriages, provided the happy bridegrooms pay for them."

The area of land under pastoral occupation in Victoria is 27,034,784 acres, the total rent paid being £174,331 17s, or 1.55 of a penny per acre.

One of the most sensational exhibitions yet introduced to the Melbourne public is a Fire King, who is on his way to the Colony, and who is to appear at the Polytechnic Institute. It is said that the man walks with naked feet upon red hot bars of iron, drinks oil at boiling point, and bites pieces of iron at white heat with his teeth.

A Nelson paper states that a whirlwind occurred there recently which did considerable damage to property in the town. It blew down a timber-shed and warehouse belonging to Messrs Curtis Brothers—damages, £300; unroofed stables; blew in windows; and in various places did a good deal of damage. There was a smart shock of earthquake on the preceding day.

An Auckland paper cautions all those who are in receipt of golden money that there has been a considerable amount of filing and sweating of gold coins lately. "We were yesterday shown," it says, "an Australian sovereign, the edges of which had been filed away until almost the whole of the 'milling' had been removed, and we are informed that other gold pieces have been recently incautiously taken, from which a great portion of the precious metal had been abstracted through holes being bored in the edge, and afterwards neatly filled up with lead. The loss of weight from this cause could not be sensible to a person taking them incautiously. Every piece ought to be examined and then 'rung,' when the difference in sound between a genuine and a doctored coin would be readily distinguished by a practised ear."

The Williamstown correspondent of the *Melbourne Argus*, writing on the 29th ult., says:—"The arrival of the Flying Squadron has given fresh life to Williamstown. On Saturday evening about fifty or sixty seamen and marines came on shore from the men-of-war, and took possession of most of the public-houses in the lower part of the town. The men all looked as if they had come for the express purpose of making themselves comfortable; and it is needless to say that their wants were promptly supplied. They, however, conducted themselves very well, and returned to their ships early yesterday morning."

Queenstown Advertisements.

QUEENSTOWN SHOEING FORGE.

J. BRIDGE,
General Blacksmith and Farrier,
REES STREET, QUEENSTOWN.
—O—
First-rate Stabling: good Oaten Hay.
—O—
HORSES FOR HIRE.

QUEEN'S ARMS HOTEL,
QUEENSTOWN.

A. EICHARDT, PROPRIETOR.
Private Rooms for Families.
SAMPLE ROOMS FOR COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS.
A large and commodious STABLE, capable of accommodating twenty horses, has recently been completed, and has been pronounced by all who have visited the district as second to none in Dunedin. An experienced groom in attendance.
Booking Office for Cobb & Co.'s line of Coaches.

PRINCE OF WALES HOTEL,
(Corner of Beach and Rees streets),
QUEENSTOWN.

W. M'LAEN, PROPRIETOR.
The above Hotel continues to keep up its reputation as one of the most comfortable in the Wakatip district. The best accommodation for visitors and boarders.
FIRST-CLASS STABLING.
The only paddock accommodation in the district.
The Pioneer of Sixpenny Drinks.

WAKATIP SAW MILLS

J. W. ROBERTSON & CO.,
TIMBER MERCHANTS,
QUEENSTOWN.

Every description of SAWN TIMBER constantly on hand, at FRANKTON and QUEENSTOWN.

ROBERT BOYNE,

GENERAL STOREKEEPER
AND NEWS AGENT,
Queenstown, Lake Wakatip.

A large stock of Groceries and other goods always on hand. Importer of English and Colonial Newspapers. Orders punctually attended to, and newspapers forwarded to any part of the district.

Agent for the CROMWELL ARGUS.

Miscellaneous Advertisements.

ALBION HOTEL AND STORE,

LUGGATE,
(25 miles from Cromwell, on the main road to Lake Wanaka).

H. MAIDMAN, Proprietor.

This well-known Hotel possesses every accommodation for the comfort and convenience of travellers.
Groceries, Clothing, Drapery, Ironmongery, Mining Tools, &c., constantly on hand, at Cromwell prices.

GOOD STABLING.
N.B.—District Post Office.

R. PRITCHARD,

Wholesale and Retail Storekeeper,
WINE, SPIRIT, AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
ARROWTOWN.

The largest and best-assorted stock of Wines, Spirits, Groceries, and Provisions in the district.
A well-assorted stock of Boots and Shoes, Drapery, &c.

Agent for T. ROBINSON & Co., Agricultural Implement Manufacturers, Dunedin & Melbourne.

NOTICE.

WE, the undersigned, beg to inform the inhabitants of the Cromwell, Alexandra and Clyde districts that we have appointed

I. HALLENSTEIN & CO.,

CROMWELL,

as our only Agents for the sale of our Silk-dressed FLOUR, BRAN, and POLLARD.

We guarantee all Flour branded with our name and obtained through the above agents.

ROBERTSON & HALLENSTEIN,
Brunswick Flour Mills,
Lake Wakatip.

Miscellaneous Advertisements.

Smithfield Butchery Company.



OWEN PIERCE (late of St. Bathans) having purchased from Mr W. J. BARRY the Butchery Business lately carried on by him in Cromwell, begs to intimate that he is in a position to supply the best description of meat at moderate prices.
O. P. hopes by strict attention to business, and keeping meat of the very best quality, to obtain a share of public support.

VULCAN HOTEL, ST. BATHANS.

SAMUEL HANCOCK, Proprietor.
First-class Accommodation for Travellers.
Always on hand—Wines, Spirits, and Ales of the best quality.
BILLIARD TABLE.—GOOD STABLING.
BLACKSMITH'S SHOP adjoining. Horses shod on the shortest notice. 5-17

To the Inhabitants of the Cromwell District.

R. BARLOW,
PRACTICAL WATCHMAKER,
AND
MANUFACTURING JEWELLER,
CLYDE.

Has now on hand a choice and varied assortment of Gold and Silver WATCHES; English, French, and American CLOCKS; also, a very choice selection of English & Colonial JEWELLERY, consisting of

Gold Scarf Pins	Brooches
Locketts	Earrings
Chains	Guard

Welding, Signet, Gem, and Keeper Rings, Seals, Keys, and Chains in endless variety, of the newest designs.

ALSO,
Lately arrived, a very suitable and elegant assortment of FANCY GOODS, too numerous to particularize, very suitable for CHRISTMAS PRESENTS and NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.

Watches and Clocks carefully cleaned & repaired.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

WILLIAM BARNES,

BLACKSMITH AND FARRIER,

(Late of Adlestree, Surrey),

Begs to announce to the inhabitants of CROMWELL and the surrounding Districts that he is about to start in the above business near the Bridge Hotel; and trusts, by strict attention to business, coupled with moderate charges, to secure a share of the work of the district.

CROMWELL RACE ART-UNION,

For the Distribution of
Twenty Articles in Gold, &c.,
(For List of Prizes, see Tickets),
By CHAS. BEEBY, WATCHMAKER & JEWELLER,
Cromwell (late of Queenstown).

ONE HUNDRED SUBSCRIBERS,
At Ten Shillings Each.

To be drawn at the Council Hall, Cromwell, on
FRIDAY, 31st DECEMBER 1869,
At Eight o'clock p.m.

The Prizes are on view at C. BEEBY'S, next Smitham's Kaurau Hotel.

Tickets, with List of Prizes printed on the back, may be obtained at the CROMWELL ARGUS Office; at the Kaurau Hotel; or of C. BEEBY.

The Winning Numbers will be advertised in the CROMWELL ARGUS.

EUROPEAN MAIL!

EUROPEAN MAIL!!

A LONDON MONTHLY SUMMARY
Of Home and Continental Politics, Social, Scientific, Literary, and Commercial Intelligence, up to the latest date, via Marseilles.

The Inhabitants of our country are respectfully informed that the undersigned is constantly receiving a large supply direct from Home, and can furnish SUBSCRIBERS or NON-SUBSCRIBERS to the Otago Daily Times and Witness with the above Newspaper for THIRTEEN Shillings per annum (13 copies).

SPECIMEN COPIES sent at once on application, free of charge.

Melbourne Australasian or Leader
(four copies each month).....18s six months
Nation or Irishman (do. do.).....18s six months
Illustrated London News (do. do.) 26s six months
Home News (13 copies).....13s per annum.

Postage in addition charged to Country Subscribers. Every description of Magazines and Newspapers received monthly. Subscriptions payable in advance.

JOSEPH BRAITHWAITE,
Newspaper and Periodical Importer, &c.,
Fleet-street, Old Arcade side,
DUNEDIN.

[Established 1863.]

The Story-Teller.

THE SISTERS.

"Oh, Elsie! what lovely flowers! Where did you get them?" exclaimed Janet Fraser, bending her head to inhale the fragrance of the delicate exotics that her sister held in her hand.

The colour deepened in Elsie's face, as she replied hastily, "Mr Roscoe gave them to me—they are out of the conservatory at The Elms."

Janet's dark eyes flashed, and a bright crimson spot glowed on her cheek; but she laughed scornfully.

"What a flirt that man is!" she replied. "I'm certain he thinks you are in love with him. He implied it the other day, and laughed at you for your folly. He would be a catch, indeed! Lady Roscoe, and mistress of The Elms! Well done, modest little Elsie!"

"Janet, how can you!" exclaimed Elsie, indignantly. "You have no right to say such things. I never sought Mr Roscoe by word or deed. It is very unkind of you to say so," said the poor girl; and she hurried on with swelling heart and burning cheeks to look herself in her room, and cry passionately over the beautiful flowers which had alternately caused her such pleasure and such pain.

Janet and Elsie Fraser were half-sisters, the daughters of old General Fraser, who, after having lost his right arm and his health in India, had returned to England with his motherless child, Janet; and to the surprise of all who saw the two together, won the affections of his pretty, gentle cousin, Mary Campbell, and married her. Two children were the result of the second marriage, the eldest a boy, Harry, who followed in his father's steps, and at the time of our story was in his regiment; and Elsie, who had her mother's fair sweet face and gentle manners.

Janet was jealous of her pretty, winning younger sister, whose gentle, amiable disposition gained the affection of all around her, which her own unusual beauty and haughty, dignified manners failed to do. She was very much admired and sought after among the young gentlemen of the neighbourhood, all of whom were proud of a smile from the beautiful Miss Fraser, but the one of all others whose favour she cared for, Edmund Roscoe, the handsome young squire of the village, eldest son of a baronet, and heir to the most beautiful estate in the country, preferred Elsie; and Janet's sharp, jealous eyes saw it, and spite of the cordiality with which he greeted her, and the many times his name was on her card at the different balls in the neighbourhood.

There was five years' difference in the ages of the sisters, and Janet's dark, foreign beauty was as its height when the graceful, blooming Elsie "came out," so that none of her former admirers deserted her for the quiet younger sister; but Janet saw only too plainly how Edmund Roscoe's eyes would wander eagerly round the room even while he greeted her, and brighten with pleasure when they rested on Elsie's slight, girlish figure. Yes, Janet saw all this, and knew that the man she loved with all the depth of her passionate nature and all the strength of pride and ambition, cared nothing for her when her sister was by, and Janet fiercely resolved that Elsie should not win him, and that she would. So now, while Elsie wept in her room over the fragrant exotics, Janet stood in the drive before their house, her dark eyes flashing and her cheeks crimson, as she angrily tapped the ground with her foot. Very beautiful she looked, her short upper lip just curled, and her shapely head thrown back; and so thought Mr Roscoe as he rode rapidly up to where she stood. The colour deepened in her cheek as she saw him, and her large eyes softened, while a gracious smile played round her beautiful mouth.

"Mr Roscoe!" she exclaimed, as she shook hands with him; "on what errand are you bound? My sister told me she had just seen you."

"True enough," he replied, with a smile, "and I was fool enough to forget to give her this note for your mother, so I rode back to deliver it. My mother means to give a ball on the twenty-fourth of this month, which is my birthday, and she wrote to Mrs Fraser at once, that you may make no other engagements. This is but the second, so I hope it is in time."

"Thank you—I am sure we are free for that day," replied Janet. "How kind of Lady Roscoe to take so much trouble."

"Oh, it was no trouble," replied the young man, as he bent to adjust his stirrup. "I was coming this way, and offered to bring the note. But now I must be off, for I am going to dine with the officers at Ashtown."

Lifting his hat, with an admiring glance at the lovely face before him, the young man rode rapidly away. Janet saw the glance, and was too well versed in such matters not to read it right.

"Not yours yet, Miss Elsie," she murmured, triumphantly—"and never shall be if I know anything of the power of beauty over men. So he forgot to give the note! He must have been deeply engrossed for that; but I'll take good care they have no more such meetings."

She turned slowly and entered the house. Mrs Fraser and Elsie were in the draw-

room. The latter was arranging the flowers she had received in the large vase in the table, for she was determined her sister should not think she treasured them because they were Mr Roscoe's gift.

"Here is a note from Lady Roscoe, mama, asking us to a ball there on the twenty-fourth," said Janet, coolly. Mr Roscoe just brought it."

"I wonder he did not give it to you, Elsie, when he gave you the flowers," remarked Mrs Fraser, as she opened it.

"No, no, mamma, it was too good an excuse to come to the house," said Janet, with a light laugh, which made Elsie's heart beat quick, and she thanked the gathering darkness for hiding her hot cheeks. "She managed to get the flowers, but he prudently forgot all about the note until it was quite too late," continued Janet. "Well, he succeeded, so I hope he's happy."

Janet left the room, carelessly humming the "Mabel Valse," and well satisfied with her work.

When Mr Roscoe entered the drawing-room the next day, just before luncheon, Janet hardly knew whether to be vexed or pleased. He had slept at Ashtown the night before, he said, and thought he would call in on his way home, that he might take Mrs Fraser's answer to his mother's note, and so spare her the trouble of sending it.

A slighter excuse would have served with the General or his wife for the appearance of such a favourite as Edmund Roscoe, and he was of course pressed to stay to luncheon. Elsie was not in the room when he entered; and as he looked round for her, his eye fell on the flowers in the vase, and he coloured and looked slightly vexed. He had hoped that Elsie would have kept them for her own room, and such had certainly been her intention before Janet's taunting speech. The effects of the said speech were also visible in the cool, distant manner in which Elsie greeted him when she entered the room. Janet marked this with satisfaction; but she was not quite so well pleased with the soft rosy blush that mounted to her sister's cheek, making her look more than usually pretty.

Luncheon over, the old General insisted on a game of croquet, which the soft, warm days of April had induced them to begin; and Janet began to see that her tactics had not been quite so successful as she had hoped. On the contrary, Elsie's reserved manner and evident avoidance of him served to pique Mr Roscoe, and stimulate him into being more than usually attentive; and Janet could have stamped with rage and mortification as she watched the earnest, loving glances which the young man bestowed on her sister, and his eager pursuit of her ball, if only to rouse her from her perfect indifference of manner. They played till late in the afternoon, and then Edmund Roscoe reluctantly ordered his horse. He tried in vain to get a few words with Elsie alone before leaving, but she was not inclined to help him, and Janet was determined to thwart him; so, after a lingering pressure of the hand, which made Elsie's cheeks glow in spite of herself, he rode thoughtfully away.

Janet went immediately to her room, locked the door, and flung herself on the bed. "He loves her!" she exclaimed passionately, her face burning and glowing with rage. "That quiet, pale little thing has succeeded without an effort, while I, with all my beauty, have failed. But no, not yet! I shall have a hard fight for it, but she shall not beat me so easily. If I don't win him, she shall lose him, or my name's not Janet Fraser!"

Elsie wandered round the garden, in spite of the gathering darkness, in a tumult of conflicting emotions. Every tone, every look of Mr Roscoe's during the day had seemed to her to prove that he loved her; but those horrid words of Janet's rang in her ears.

"He is only flirting with me," she repeated again and again to herself. "He does not really care for me; and yet how much I love him!—I feel I do, and he sees it, as Janet says; but he shall not see it any longer. I will not be laughed at: I will be colder and colder every time I meet him. Oh! I wish I had never seen him," sobbed the poor girl, as she leaned against a willow that hung over the lake, and pressed her hands to her throbbing brow.

Unable to appear indifferent, unwilling to show her real feelings, Elsie day after day carefully avoided Mr Roscoe, driving with her mother in the pony-carriage, or walking with her father. Occasionally she met him, but when with her parents, she was easily able to escape; more than a mere shake of the hand, and she sighed within herself at feeling a glow of delight at his warm pressure, and the eager, questioning gaze of his dark eyes—those bright, clear eyes, that were fast gaining a troubled, sad look, that she would not perceive.

Janet met Mr Roscoe again and again. Certainly her walks were more frequently in the direction of The Elms than they had been; but Elsie's heart sank as she heard how day after day he walked home with her, unconscious that his chief reason was that he might hear Elsie's name, or see her in the drive when he left Janet. No, Elsie knew nothing of this, and the poor child's heart grew faint and sick as she became more and more convinced that he had but amused himself with her, while in reality he loved her beautiful sister. So the twenty-fourth of the month drew

near, and Elsie's tears fell slowly as she thought of the happiness she would have had in the anticipation of it when she believed Mr Roscoe loved her. Sometimes she thought she would not go, but she dared not encounter her parents' too questioning; she feared that already the must perceive her pallid cheek and heavy eye, and she strove hard to smother her bright self again.

Shortly before the ball, Mr Roscoe came with another note from Lady Roscoe, begging that if Mrs Fraser feared a long drive after the ball, they would all spend the night there. Elsie and Janet were both in the drawing-room when he was announced, the former playing the dreary airs she loved so well, but Elsie rose quickly as he entered, and bent over the music stand, replacing her music, to hide the hot blush that spread over her face. It soon passed, and she was pale as death as she quietly gave him her hand. Mr Roscoe turned away, with a suppressed sigh, from her cold, indifferent greeting, and his eyes rested with pleasure on Janet's lovely face, her beauty heightened by her crimson cheeks and happy smile. Involuntarily his voice took a warmer tone as he addressed her, and Elsie, with an aching heart, noted the change, and offered to take the note to her mother.

Mr Roscoe's gaze followed Elsie as she left the room, and after a few minutes' pause he said, hesitatingly, "Your sister does not look very well, Miss Fraser, nor very happy."

Janet clenched her hand tight, and her heart beat fast; but she replied carelessly, "No, she's not very happy just now. It is a love affair; and being so young, she frets over it. I dare say matters will all come right when they meet."

Mr Roscoe started, and a hot flush dyed his features, but he said nothing; and when Mrs Fraser entered the room with the answer to his mother's note, accompanied by Elsie, he hastily took his leave.

Oh, Janet, Janet, how far jealousy and ambition led you from every kind and gentle feeling! She saw no more of Mr Roscoe for several days, and an uneasy feeling was creeping over her. Had he left the place in his disappointment and grief? But no, he could not do that when his mother was giving this ball expressly for him. Ah, well, let her story work for a few days, and then he would be the more ready for her to mould to her own wishes.

The twenty-fourth came at last, and, restless and excited, Janet walked along the road towards The Elms in the afternoon, more from habit than from any expectation of meeting Mr Roscoe; but her heart beat fast as she heard a horse rapidly coming along the road, and recognised his own chestnut thorough-bred. It was only a groom after all; but Janet caught sight of a bouquet in his hand, and stopped him.

"Are you going to the General's?" she asked, as quietly as her beating heart would let her.

"Yes, miss," replied the man, touching his hat; "I was to leave these flowers for Miss Fraser."

"Very well; I will take them," said Janet, holding out her hand for the flowers and a note he showed; and the groom undoubtingly gave them to her, and rode off.

Janet stood still, faint and giddy with excitement, for the note was for Elsie, and she knew only too well that it contained the death-blow to all her hopes. Her plans had miscarried, and Mr Roscoe had written to know his fate. Elsie would gladly accept him, and she—

(To be continued in our next.)

ROYAL RAFTING.—The usual monotony of Wildbad (writes the correspondent of the Standard) was broken in upon the other day by the announcement that a raft was ready for floating down the river, and the Royal visitors were invited to take an excursion upon it. A raft on the Enz generally consists of about 130 trees, and the *motus operandi* of floating is to dam up the stream, so as to secure a sufficient rush of water to carry the spurs over the rocks and shoals. The passage of the unwieldy and shapeless structure is not unattended with risk; but, danger or no danger, most of the visitors now remaining here determine to try this (to them) novel mode of navigation. One of the sections in the centre of the raft had been tastefully fitted up with flags and banniers, and this was appropriated to Her Royal Highness and her two eldest children, who were accompanied by General Sir William and Lady Knollys and family, and Mr Paget. All went well and pleasantly for a distance of about four miles, when just as the raft reached the last weir, the rush of the current had the effect of bringing it under water, and of wadding the whole of the party to their knees. As voyagers on rafts on the Enz are constantly liable to experience an inconvenience of this sort, the circumstance excited no comment rather than alarm. On landing, Her Royal Highness and suite entered the carriages which were in waiting for them, and headed by the Wildbad band, returned home.

The Prussian Bible Society in Berlin has distributed, since its foundation, in 1814, more than three millions of copies of the Holy Scriptures.

Cromwell Post Office.

MAILS CLOSE:

For Kawarau Gorge, Edwards's, Nevis Ferry, Arrow River, Frankton and Queenstown, every Sunday and Tuesday, at 9.30 p.m.
For Rocky Point, Luggett, Albert Town, and Cardrona, every Tuesday, at 9.30 p.m.
For Bannockburn and Nevis, every alternate Monday.
For Clyde, and Dunedin via Mount Ida, every Thursday and Saturday, at 3 p.m.

MAILS ARRIVE:

From Clyde, and Dunedin via Mount Ida, every Monday and Wednesday, at 8 a.m.
From Queenstown, Frankton, Arrow River, Edwards's, Nevis Ferry, and Kawarau Gorge, every Thursday and Saturday, at 3 p.m.
From Cardrona, Albert Town, Luggett, and Rocky Point, every Thursday, at 3 p.m.
From Nevis and Bannockburn, every alternate Wednesday, at 3 p.m.

SAVINGS BANK AND MONEY ORDER OFFICE.

Open for the transaction of Money Order and Savings Bank business daily, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

TELEGRAPH NOTICE.

The Telegraph Office is open to the public on week days from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sundays from 10 to 10.30 a.m., and from 5 to 5.30 p.m., New Zealand mean time.

J. REEKIE, Postmaster.

COMMERCIAL.

ARGUS OFFICE.

Tuesday afternoon.

Business has not increased during the last week, but it is anticipated that a good demand will be made for various requirements during the holidays. A number of the claimholders are busy washing up for Christmas, and increased trade will therefore naturally follow. Seven waggons passed through Cromwell for Dunedin on Saturday last, all loaded with wool from Mr McLean's station, and several teams are loading from Messrs Loughnan's.

Quotations are as follow:—

Flour (Robertson & Hallenstein's).—£17 to £19	per ton.	
Pollard do. do.	£13 per ton.	
Brans do. do.	9 " "	
Oats.—7s per bushel.		
Wheat.—7s per bushel.		
Chaff.—£7 per ton.		
Hay.—£9 " "		
Straw.—£7 " "		
Potatoes.—£8 " "		
Bread.—1s per 4lb loaf.		
Butter.—2s per lb.		
Cheese.—1s 6d "		
Bacon.—1s 6d "		
Ham.—1s 8d "		
Eggs.—2s per dozen.		
Kerosene.—4s 9d per gallon.		
Candles.—1s 3d per lb.		
Cartage from Dunedin.—£7 10s per ton.		
Mutton.—4d to 6d		
Beef.—7d and 8d		

BURTON BROTHERS' Photographic Tour.

Having been somewhat unexpectedly summoned to Dunedin, I beg respectfully to apprise the public of Cromwell and neighbourhood that I shall be glad to receive sitters before my departure (To-morrow, THURSDAY), and after my return, which will be in about a fortnight.

ALFRED H. BURTON.

SPECIMENS of Portraits, and our Series of Up-country Views, may be seen at Smitham's Kawarau Hotel.

THE Cromwell Argus.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1869.

BEFORE another issue of the CROMWELL ARGUS is presented to the public, CHRISTMAS, with all its hallowed reminiscences, will be upon us—Christmas, the anniversary of the happiest hours of our younger days, when, set free from school restraints, and re-united with father, mother, sisters, and brothers, in the old, well-remembered, and dearly-loved home of our infancy, we revelled in the fulness of childhood's bliss—Christmas, the very name of which arouses in every being who has lived in a Christian land a thrill of pleasure which no words can describe, and to be without which would rob life of half its interest—Christmas, the season when of old business of every description was abandoned and forgotten, and men and women gave themselves up to worship and to social pleasure and enjoyment of the very sweetest kind, enjoyment obtained at home, surrounded by relatives who never met save at that particular time—Christmas, the season when the blazing hearth shone with a delicious light, never to be obtained from fire save at Christmas time, reflecting from the countenances of thousands a joy and heartfelt pleasure only experienced at Christmas; when the yule log, the song, the merry dance, and countless other enjoyments, conspired to banish care and to crown the season with hilarity as to engrave upon the heart the recollection of joys so deep, so lasting, and so valued that they are never effaced. Effaced, did we say—no, they are not; and the fact is one of the most honourable that man has to his credit. These recollections and emotions to which we have referred form the better part of our fallen nature—the key-stone to our happiness—the bright spot in our existence—and our future weal or woe will be

largely governed by such influences. Yes, Christmas is upon us; and the fact has aroused us, and has inspired us to write our preamble. We have hinted at the feelings which a review of our past lives produces, and it is but fitting that we should also review the past year. Anniversaries with most people are occasions for particular review of the past. Remembrances are awakened which at another time do not influence the mind to the same extent: they do not possess the same power, neither do they awaken the same emotion. Let us, then, review the year which has passed, and which in a few more days will have actually expired. It has been to some, perhaps, a year of prosperity: the world has used them well: practically, they have discovered the philosopher's stone: all they have been brought into contact with has turned to gold—their success has been complete—their losses nil; and in the tide of prosperity they have been swept away from the view of the opposite conditions which prevail around them amongst their fellow men. Others have during the past year descended the scale—have suffered losses, severe, unlooked for, and in some cases ruinous. The reason is to them obscure; and the memory of past successes makes it hard to bear. Others have lost friends—dearly loved ones. Fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, brothers, sisters, and children have been torn apart by the rude, relentless hand of death. A vacuum has been created which never can be filled up, however much time may deposit within it its healing influences; and another remembrance has been added to the already well-filled heart.

The existence of the influences to which we have alluded forms at home, and in every settled community, a strong and lasting bond of union. Friends at a distance who never meet, to a great extent forget each other, no opportunities being afforded to them of keeping up and renewing intimacies; and we greatly fear that in this Colony, and perhaps we may with safety say particularly in this Province, this sort of thing is by degrees being forgotten, and its importance ignored. Christmas here with many is hardly kept at all. In most places amusements are got up, and generally a holiday garb is worn. But there is not that absolute disregard for business during the few days allotted to Christmas which we should like to see; in fact, a keener relish for money-making appears to possess men's minds than at almost any other time: and so Christmas here is turned into a market more than into a season for social enjoyment and the meeting of friends. We have an object in making these remarks: we wish to draw public attention to the subject, so as to produce a change, and to establish a state of things more nearly allied to that which exists in the old country.

Our remarks have been, we fear, somewhat disjointed; but from their general purport our readers will be able to understand what we mean; and we shall now conclude by wishing our community, collectively and individually, "A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR."

To-day the usual fortnightly sitting of the Warden's Court will take place at the Courthouse, Cromwell. Not the least important business to be brought under the notice of the Warden will be the consideration of the protest lodged by the quartz-miners of Bendigo against the granting of an exclusive water-right to the shareholders in the reef first opened out in that locality, and now known as the Bendigo Reef. Very important issues are involved in the settlement of this question, and there will doubtless be a large attendance of miners and others interested.

The body of the unfortunate man Steel, who was drowned in the Molyneux on Wednesday last, while swimming ashore from a raft which had stranded upon a sunken rock some few miles above Wakefield Ferry, has not yet been found. The body will probably float to the surface in the course of a day or two, when it will no doubt be recovered and interred. We understand that the raft has since been got off the rock, and conveyed to the landing place, about two miles above Cromwell.

The establishment of Mr Cunard's daily coach to the reefs will be a great boon to the residents of Cromwell and Bendigo Gully. A very large number of the miners and residents in Bendigo Gully have availed themselves of the opportunity thus afforded of getting their letters from the Cromwell and Rocky Point post-offices, and have given Mr Cunard full authority to receive them.

From Ardour Station we learn that the total number of sheep that will be shorn this season is estimated at 75,000. Of this number 35,000 have already been relieved of their surplus wool, and the remainder are to be shorn at Morven Hills Station. The wool from the latter station is conveyed to Oamaru for export, while the whole of that from Ardour passes through Cromwell.

Mr Perriam, proprietor of the Wellcome Home Hotel, Lowburn, has, with his accustomed public spirit, arranged to hold several Hack Races on Boxing Day. A number of athletic sports are announced to come off after the races, and an excellent day's amusement may be expected. The arrangements are under the direction of Messrs Lusecombe, Jolly, and Taggart, as stewards; and some good prizes are offered, particulars of which will be seen in the bills and advertisement. As the Lowburn is within an easy distance of Cromwell, and there is no counter-attraction announced for Boxing Day, we have no hesitation in predicting a large turn-out of visitors.

From the Bannockburn we learn that in many of the sluicing claims the miners are unable to work more than three or four hours a day, owing to the almost unprecedented scarcity of water. The heavy rain which took place in the early part of last week was not so severely felt at Bannockburn as in other places in the immediate neighbourhood of Cromwell. It was the means of giving a better supply of water to some of the races; but this, of course, was merely a temporary benefit, and water is now as scarce as ever.

By advertisement in another column, it will be perceived that the new punt at Rocky Point will be open for traffic on Friday next. Mr McCormick, the enterprising proprietor, announces a reduction of fares; and we have no doubt he will receive a fair share of support.

The following applications for protection will be heard at the sitting of the Warden's Court, which takes place to-day:—J. McDonald and five others, claim, Bendigo Reef, 60 days; K. Bayo, and five others, No. 2, south-east on Wilson's reef, 60 days; J. Wilson and five others, prospecting claim, Wilson's reef, 60 days; J. Hayes and five others, No. 3, east, Richmond reef, 60 days; J. Gibson and five others, No. 1, west, Wilson's reef, 60 days; H. Wilson and five others, No. 4, Aurora reef, 60 days; John Jones and five others, Bendigo reef, 60 days; W. Low and five others, Bendigo reef, 60 days; John Muir and five others, No. 3, west, Wilson's reef, 60 days.

A fire broke out on the premises of Mr William Beresford, timber merchant, Alexandra, on Saturday last; but it was fortunately prevented from spreading before any damage was done. Particulars will be found in our Alexandra correspondent's letter.

Mr Alfred Burton (of the firm of Burton Bros., photographers, Dunedin), who has been making a tour through the northern part of the Province, arrived in Cromwell on Monday. He has with him some beautiful specimens of his art, taken by himself, which are on view at Smitham's Kawarau Hotel. Mr Burton announces by advertisement in another column that he has been unexpectedly called to Dunedin, and leaves on Thursday; but that he will return to Cromwell in about a fortnight.

On Monday last a rather serious accident occurred at Bendigo Gully to Mr E. Ryan and Mr Thomas Hawthorne, of Clyde. They were riding at a quick pace down the hill above the Solway Cu's machinery, when Mr Ryan's horse shied, and threw his rider to the ground. Mr Hawthorne pulled up quickly, and in doing so his stirrup-leather broke, and he also was precipitated to the earth. Mr Ryan received a severe contusion on the right side of the face, and remained insensible for upwards of an hour. Mr Hawthorne sustained some bruises on the chest; but beyond the injuries we have mentioned we understand no serious results are likely to follow.

The Provincial Council for several days during the first week was engaged with the consideration of Mr Donald Reid's resolutions ament the passing of the Otago Hundreds Regulation Bill by the Legislative Assembly. The motion proposed by the hon. member protests against the course pursued by the Legislative Assembly in passing the act in question and was moved by Mr Reid on Monday. The member for Oamaru (Mr Ashcroft) moved the following amendment on the motion:—"That in the opinion of this Council it is undesirable, in the meantime, to pass any resolutions tending to bring the Colonial Legislature and the Provincial Council into collision, and that without committing the Council to an approval of the provisions of the Otago Hundreds Regulation Act, the Act should be put in operation in so far as proclaiming the Hundreds recommended last Session, with the view of testing how far it is calculated to meet the requirements of settlement in the Province, and ascertaining whether any and what amendments it may be desirable to apply to the General Assembly to have effected at some future time." A long and occasionally acrimonious debate which is reported at great length in the Daily Times, took place, and was still being continued when our last files of that journal left Dunedin.

From the Kaikouras, the Lyttelton Times learns that on the 7th inst. a woman was seen there with one of her children under her arm with its throat cut. In the other hand she had a loaded revolver, and under the same arm a gun, supposed also to be loaded. She had fired also at some children belonging to Mr Monk, of the Accommodation House at the Boat Harbour. Her name has not been learnt, but the police constable and men from Hartland's and Caverhill's stations were out, by last accounts, in search of her. The news was brought to Hawkeswood by the Kaikouras mailman. The woman is supposed to have been landed from the Boat last trip, and is in such a state that she may have to be shot before being taken.

LOCAL SPORTING NEWS.

Peeping Bob was not so far wrong with regard to Reefers' capabilities, as was proved by the recent match between him and our old veteran, Garnet.

What has become of our old sports? Are they keeping pace with the times? I say, no. Racing has now become an acknowledged pastime or amusement, and I have no doubt that it contributes to improve our breed of speedy and useful horses; but I think it is a piece of cruelty to be year after year bringing the same horses on the turf, when it would be more to the credit of their respective owners to be pensioning them off on the Cromwell common.

By-the-bye, could not the race-course be placed in the hands of trustees, and be utilised, either to bring in a revenue, or to be used as an asylum for some of those horses which have done good service on the turf?

I intend to come out strong next week on the forthcoming events.

PEEPING BOB.

As a prelude to the Cromwell Jockey Club races, which take place on the 30th and 31st instant, a match for £10 a side between Mr John Garrett's Reefer Boy and Mr Knudson's Garnet came off on the race-course on Saturday last, the distance run being a mile and a half. At two o'clock, the hour appointed for the start, the course presented quite an animated appearance, a considerable number of horses and vehicles, and a goodly crowd of sporting individuals, combined with a sprinkling of the fair sex, being on the ground. Garnet was the favourite, and when stripped he looked in excellent form. Two and even three to one were freely offered on him, but with few acceptors. The Reefer, ridden by Mr Frank Foote, of Clyde, although hard pushed, never lessened the distance, and Garnet came in an easy winner. A scratch match was afterwards got up, £5 being collected for the winner. There were five entries, the race being won by a mare of Mr Knudson's.

A foot-race for £5 a side has been arranged to come off near Wrightson's hotel, Kawarau Gorge, between Robert Inglis and Robert Swan, 12 o'clock on Saturday next being fixed as the eventful hour. A good deal of interest is centred in the event, and the race is expected to be a very close one.

A numerously-attended meeting of the Cromwell Jockey Club was held at the Kawarau Hotel on Monday evening. Mr W. Smitham in the chair. Nominations for the undermentioned races were received and read as follows:—

Publican's Purse Handicap.—First day

Mr Knudson's Garret
Mr Smitham's Cromwell
Mr Pritchard's Skyonion
Mr Garrett's Nelly Gray
Mr Pollock's Raven
Mr Hazlett's Musician
Mr Hazlett's Novice
Mr Ryan's Brunette.

District Handicap.—Second day.

Mr Smitham's Cromwell
Mr Pritchard's Skyonion
Mr Garrett's Nelly Gray
Mr Jolly's Excelsior
Mr Pollock's Lady Ellen
Mr Inder's Ladybird
Mr Hazlett's Musician
Mr Hazlett's Novice
Mr Ryan's Brunette.

CROMWELL TOWN COUNCIL.

The Council met on Monday evening, when the Mayor and all the Councillors were present. The minutes of several previous meetings were read and confirmed.

Mr W. J. Barry's application to lease 35 feet of frontage in Melmore-street, adjoining the Council Chamber, upon which to erect an auction mart, was remitted to the Public Works Committee to report on.

Mr Dawkins wrote asking permission to erect a temporary verandah in front of his premises; but the Council declined to receive the letter.

A letter from the Paovincial Treasurer, stating that the balance now due to the Corporation on account of subsidy was £29, and offering to hand over that amount at once, was referred to the Finance Committee for a report.

An account from Messrs Nelson & Co., for advertising, was referred to the same committee.

The Inspector of Nuisances reported that the sanitary condition of the town was anything but satisfactory. This he attributed chiefly to the slaughtering of sheep in close proximity to the main street, and suggested that the owners of slaughter-houses should be ordered to remove them outside the town. The report also called attention to the filthy state of the town water-race, and to the nuisance created in consequence of broken bottles, sheepskins, and rubbish of all kinds being strewn about and suffered to accumulate.—The report was received, and the Inspector was instructed to take legal proceedings against all persons failing to abate nuisances existing on their premises. With regard to the town race, the Public Works Committee was instructed to examine the same and to report at next meeting of Council.

On the motion of Cr. Badger, seconded by Cr. Dagg, it was agreed to apply to the Superintendent for a grant of land suitable for purposes of recreation, and also to make application for a race-course reserve.

Cr. Burres tabled the following resolution, which he introduced with a few explanatory remarks:—"That in consequence of the disrespectful conduct of the Librarian towards the Council, and other irregularities, this Council does not feel justified in allowing the use of the Council-hall for the purposes of a library, so long as the present Librarian fills that office." This was seconded by Cr. Badger, and carried. The Council then adjourned.

CROMWELL R.M.'s COURT.

MONDAY, DEC. 20.

(Before W. H. WHETTER, Esq., J.P.)
John Wilson was charged by Sergeant Cassels with being drunk. The delinquent admitted the offence, and was fined 10s and costs, or 24 hours' imprisonment.

(JAMES HAZLETT, Esq., J.P., here took his seat on the Bench.)

David Sinclair surrendered to his bail on a charge of drunkenness and disorderly conduct. He was fined 40s and costs. During the hearing of the case, the prisoner behaved in a most disrespectful manner towards the Bench, and used very abusive language. He was committed for contempt, and at a late hour of the day he was brought up, and mulcted in a penalty of £5, or 14 days' imprisonment. The fine was paid.

ALEXANDRA.

(From our Own Correspondent.)

On Saturday last our townsmen were alarmed by the cry of "Fire," and on rushing to the scene, found the shop of Mr Beresford, carpenter and joiner, in full blaze. The wind at the time was in such a direction, that had it not been for the prompt action of the neighbours, I should have had to chronicle a calamity which makes one shudder at the bare thought of; especially when it is taken into consideration that we have no sufficient water at command, nor have we any organised body to act in such an emergency. It naturally occurs to one's mind, and in fact has caused some talk amongst us, that there is a great necessity for some action being taken relative to the large amount of powder now openly stored at several of the stores in the township. Since the advent of quartz-reefing amongst us, a great demand has sprung up for this dangerous commodity, and I have no hesitation in saying that not less than a ton and a half is now openly stored, and it is only some few days since I actually saw a little child on the pathway making a plaything of a 25lb-keg; and just previous to this, at another store, I saw fifteen kegs being delivered, which were stacked outside under the verandah, and on which three men were sitting smoking. I think, therefore, that it has now become necessary that some steps should be taken for its proper storage, and that it should be made compulsory on the vendors to have the same placed in localities where it would be less dangerous to the town and its inhabitants.

Our quartz mining interest is still in a progressive state at Batcher's. On the Alexandra reef the shafts are being carried down with great vigour, no less than twelve companies sinking for the lode, the results from which cannot be expected for some ten weeks from present date. At Iversen's, on the Courvois line, they have carried a shaft down about 75 feet, but owing to the reef not thickening at that depth, the company have determined to sink again more to the southward. I had an opportunity of examining some stone taken from the shaft they have commenced, which was literally speckled with gold, and a prospect from casing and rubble yielded a drwt. to the tin dish. A prospecting claim at Blackman's Gully has been applied for, and from the gold seen in the leader, there is every reason to believe that another valuable discovery has been made.

Our sluicing claims are all giving good returns, and I may particularly mention the Owens and Manuherikia Co.s, and Blackwell's party. It is a cause of great regret that a greater abundance of water cannot be brought to bear upon the many aridiferous spots known in this neighbourhood. There is an undoubted good field for the outlay of capital in bringing water to bear upon these localities, giving employment to many, and splendid returns to those who have the pluck to make the necessary outlay.

For our race meeting, we have seven entries nominated for the District Handicap, and the weights, as adjusted by the Stewards, have given great satisfaction. A new course has been made, and there is no doubt from the quantity of horses in training that we shall have a more than ordinarily good meeting, and that a large gathering of the lovers of racing will be attracted.

Mr Nelson, who has been in the Police Force for some years, has been compelled to resign from ill health; and as this gentleman has been mainly instrumental in the formation of the various lodges connected with Forrestry, great sympathy is felt for him. At Clyde, the Brethren have made him a valuable present, and there is no doubt that the members of the other lodges in the District will follow their good example.

THE ESCORT.

The following are the quantities of gold taken down to Dunedin by the last fortnightly Escort.

	ozs.	dwt.
Queenstown	1305	6
Mount Ida	978	0
Tuapoka	908	11
Cromwell	820	0
Dunstan	225	14
Waipori	401	13
Alexandra	314	17
Clyde	404	0
Waitahuna	291	4
Arrow	503	9
Tokomairiri	180	0

Total 6235 14

JOTTINGS FROM CLYDE.

Your correspondent of last week has unfortunately (or, as some persons think, fortunately) taken advantage of the friendly character of the Refractory Ward at the D.D.H., but during a passing moment of consciousness, he sent for me and begged "an I loved him," to send you all the news of the week.

Firstly, the weather has been intensely hot for the last five days, Wednesday and Thursday being so sultry that everyone anticipated a shock of an earthquake, but fortunately none occurred, and the heat still continues.

The excitement in regard to your reefs appears to be gradually subsiding, but I hear that some of our townspeople have determined to give Bendigo a few months' further trial, and are consequently going to keep on the men at present employed there. From the Serpentine, the latest news is that Mumford and party have succeeded in baling out their shaft, and have obtained first rate prospects. Some company is, I hear, about to make application to the Warden for the monopoly of the watercourses, but it will be strenuously opposed by the quartz companies, as, in the event of the grant being made, machinery could not be got to work without the aid of steam. At Conroy's, Iverson and Co. have sunk through their leader, but are about to commence another shaft, where I trust they may have better luck. The prospects at Butcher's still continue good, and the people of Alexandra have determined to thoroughly prospect the hills in the neighbourhood of the Manorburn, gold-bearing quartz having been discovered in that locality.

A few words about a matter which deeply concerns the welfare of the district and the community at large—I allude to the power possessed by the publicans. It is not as a teetotaler I write, but as one who wishes to see everyone prosper, to see miners able to return in a few years to the "old country" with a sufficiency to maintain them in comfort for the rest of their days, to see the various branches of trade better supported, and not to see men who have toiled and slaved for eight or ten months come into a township and, instead of banking a portion of their earnings and spending a few pounds in getting necessities and comforts for their tents or houses, go into a public house or shanty, with say £100, and are kept in a state of drunkenness till the landlord chooses to turn him out and return him a five-pound note to get back with. In a certain class of public houses, this is constantly done all over the Goldfields. Look at Clyde. We have nine licensed houses, and yet (what a thirsty lot we must be!) we also have two shanties, at which there is no attempt to disguise, but Tom, Jack, or Harry can go and pay their money and get their drinks. The male population here is considerably under 100, including the Camp and others who are not householders, which gives one hotel or shanty to every nine persons. Why, two would be amply sufficient; but if eleven can make it pay, somebody must provide the money. How much poverty might be traced to this source! See: there's a man in business who will spend six-a-crown or five shillings two or three nights in the week, "just to give so-and-so a turn"; and yet you ask that man for a subscription to some charity and he says, "You seem to think a man's made of money; why don't you go and ask the publicans, or some one who can afford it?"

In conclusion, I would notice that, according to the Treasurer's Monthly Report in the *Dunstan Times*, the balance to the credit of the Dunstan District Hospital is gradually becoming "smaller, and beautifully less." Query: Who is to blame? Everyone knows that a mining community has only to be asked, and that the money is always forthcoming for such an object, and I cannot but think that if the collector only stirred himself a little he might have a different statement to shew at the end of the year.

The *West Coast Times* of November 26th contains the following:—Information reached town yesterday of another important discovery of auriferous alluvial ground, situated, it is said, some fifteen miles up the Hokitika. It seems that the prospectors, six in number, came down to the Kanieri early yesterday, for the purpose of making application for an extended claim, but the Warden being absent, they were unable to obtain it. As is usual in such cases, the men would not divulge the exact locality, but they have stated that after sinking ten feet they came upon a wash two feet thick, and which prospected rather better than half-a-pennyweight to the dish. The gold is said to be of a rough, shotty character. At the Kanieri, the greatest excitement prevailed during the day, and when it was known in town the excitement was also intense. We believe that several parties started up the river yesterday afternoon to try and discover the place. That there will be a big rush most certainly.

A surgeon writes:—Our four-year old has been ailing in the measles, and has heard lectures as to the probability of catching his younger brother. The other probably remembering the usual course of out-grown clothing, he said, patronisingly, "George, you may have the measles when I have with them." Strange to say, George did not catch the measles.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

JUSTICE'S JUSTICE; OR, WHAT MAY HAPPEN TO A MAN IN THE DUNSTAN DISTRICT.

To the Editor of the CROMWELL ARGUS.

SIR—Permit me through the medium of your valuable journal to bring under the notice of the miners in your district, and the public in general, the hardships and injustice that have been inflicted upon me by Mr Warden Pyke; and in doing so, I may state that I am solely actuated with the idea of preventing that gentleman from acting in such an arbitrary and unreasonable manner should any case of a similar character ever come under his jurisdiction again.

In the month of last, I made a statement in Court to the effect that I was not the owner of a certain dredge. Another person inadvertently swore that he had handed me over all the papers in connection with the said dredge, thus making me the owner. The result was, I was committed for trial, the bail being fixed at one thousand pounds. This I do not complain of, although the amount of bail to any unprejudiced person must appear exorbitant in the extreme. But, Sir, three days after my committal, and whilst I was waiting to be transmitted to Dunedin, the person who had inadvertently sworn that he had placed all the papers in my hands forwarded those documents to my agent. That gentleman immediately brought them under the notice of Mr Warden Pyke, and asked him to reduce the bail from £1000 to £400, which my agent was prepared with; but Mr Pyke was inexorable, and although having my innocence brought before him in such a palpable manner, he still persisted in sending me to Dunedin to await my trial—thus damaging my character, injuring my health, putting me to upwards of £100 expenses, and last—but not least—subjecting me to three months' incarceration in a common gaol, rendering me the associate of thieves and of the most desperate and depraved characters—and all to result in an acquittal!

Now, Sir, I would ask you, in the mildest terms, "Is not the conduct of Mr Warden Pyke censurable in the extreme, (1st) in fixing the bail at the excessive amount of a thousand pounds, and (2nd) when my innocence was brought under his notice, for his refusing to reduce the amount to the £400 offered by my agent, which certainly would have been a sufficient guarantee for my appearance at the Sessions in Dunedin, and would have saved me the loss of time, expense, and moral degradation and pollution complained of?" I will not trespass further upon your valuable space, for Mr Pyke's vagaries and eccentricities are becoming proverbial and pretty well canvassed through the length and breadth of the land, but I do hope that by your giving this a corner in your valuable journal, it may deter this model Warden from again declaring so unjustly in the case of any unfortunate miner or miners who may be brought into his august presence for judicial examination.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

ROBERT HENDERSON.

THE LATE MEETING AT BENDIGO GULLY.

To the Editor of the CROMWELL ARGUS.

SIR—In your issue of December 15, in which you report the proceedings of a meeting held at Bendigo, on Monday, the 12th inst., I noticed my name as seconder to a resolution proposed by Mr Michael Hurley. I beg to state that I neither proposed nor seconded any resolution in your report.

By kindly inserting this in your next issue, you will oblige, yours respectfully,

Upper Bendigo. JAMES PEACE.

CROMWELL RACE CARD.

The Only Authorised Card,

Containing a List of all the Horses entered for each event, together with the Names, Weights, and Colours of the Riders, will be issued by the undersigned (under authority of the Stewards), on the Morning of each Race Day; and may be obtained at the Office of this Paper, or from the ARGUS Runners at the Race Course.

A limited amount of space on the back of the Card is available for ADVERTISEMENTS, and early application is requested in order to secure insertion.

MATTHEWS & FENWICK.

Cunnard's Line of People's Coaches.



DAILY CONVEYANCE TO AND FROM LOGANTOWN, BENDIGO GULLY REEFS, AND CROMWELL.

JOHN CUNNARD

Begs to announce that he is now running a TWO-HORSE CONVEYANCE

BETWEEN

LOGANTOWN AND CROMWELL,

Leaving Logantown

EVERY MORNING, AT SEVEN O'CLOCK; Returning from Goudgar's Junction Hotel at 3.30 p.m.

Parties residing at the Reefs will thereby be enabled to spend at least six hours in Cromwell, and return to the Reefs the same evening.

FARES.

Each way 10s.
To and from 15s.

JOHN CUNNARD,

Proprietor.

New Advertisements.

WILL BE CLASSIFIED IN OUR NEXT.

CHRISTMAS RACES AT LOWBURN.

Hack Races

WILL TAKE PLACE AT

J. PERRIAM'S LOWBURN HOTEL,

LOWBURN,

On Boxing Day, (Monday, 27th inst.)

Stewards: Messrs John Luscombe, David Jolly, and David Taggart.

THREE RACES!

PRIZES -25 EACH.

Conditions.

The two first Races will be three-quarter-mile heats, for all horses that have never won advertised money.

The third event will be a TROTTER RACE, open to all horses that have never won advertised money.

No weight under 10 stone.

Entrance 10s., with a sweepstakes of 5s. each.

Rules.

All disputes arising will be settled by the Stewards, or whom they may appoint.

All entries to be post entries.

The Races will commence at 12 o'clock noon.

By Order of the Stewards.

J. O. F.

COURT STAR OF CROMWELL.

No. 4933.

A SUMMONED MEETING

Will be held on TUESDAY, 23rd Dec. current.

Usual hour and place.

BUSINESS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE.

D. MACKELLAR, C.S.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS!

GRAND

Vocal & Instrumental Concert,

To be held in the

LARGE HALL of the CROMWELL HOTEL,

ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, DEC. 29.

Proceeds to be given to a Fund to be formed for the purpose of erecting an Atheneum Hall in Cromwell.

Programme.

PART FIRST.

Overture, *Tancredi* (Rossini) ... Mr & Mrs Simpson

Song, "Many Happy Returns of the Day" ... Mr Whetter

Song, "Jeannie with the Light Brown Hair" ... Mr Luscombe

Ophicleide Solo from "Acis and Galatea" (Handel) ... Mr Baird

Song, "No one to Love" ... Mrs Corse

Duet, "What are the Wild Waves Saying" ... Messrs Luscombe and Arkell

Song, "The Exile" ... Mr Bate

Selections from *Traviata*—Violin & Piano (Verdi) ... Mr and Mrs Simpson

Song, "John Barleycorn" ... Mr Arkell

Song, "Let me kiss him for his Mother" ... Mr Garrett

Song, "The Slave Ship" (Russell) ... Mr Fenwick

INTERVAL OF 15 MINUTES.

PART II.

Overture, "La Cenerentola" (Rossini) ... Mr and Mrs Simpson

Song, "Absent Friends" ... Mr Luscombe

Song, "A Motto for Every Man" ... Mr Baird

Glee, "Breathe Soft ye Winds" ... Messrs Arkell, Bate, & Luscombe

Cornet Duet—Air from *Lucia di Lammermoor* (Donizetti) ... Messrs Whetter and Escott

Song, "Down where the Bluebells grow" ... Mrs Corse

Comic Song, "Tommy Dodd" ... Mr Arkell

Air, with variations (Violin and Piano) ... Mr and Mrs Simpson

Song, "When other Lips and other Hearts" ... Mr Garrett

Song, "The Old Musketeer" ... Mr Tippet

"GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!"

Doors open at half-past Seven o'clock; Concert to commence at Eight precisely.

Tickets to be obtained from any of the members of Committee, and from the Secretary.

GEORGE FENWICK,

Hon. Sec.

CROMWELL RACES.

WEIGHTS DECLARED

By the Handicappers, for the following events:

PUBLICANS' PURSE,

(Two Miles).

Skyonian 9st 0lb

Musician 9 0

Raven 8 12

Nelly Gray 8 6

Novice 7 4

Cromwell 6 12

Brunette 6 8

Garnet 6 8

DISTRICT HANDICAP.

(Two Miles and a Half).

Skyonian 8 10

Lady Ellen 8 7

Musician 8 7

Excelsior 8 4

Nelly Gray 8 2

Lady Bird 7 7

Novice 7 0

Cromwell 6 9

Brunette 6 4

New Advertisements.

WILL BE CLASSIFIED IN OUR NEXT.

OPENING OF THE ROCKY POINT FERRY.

FRIDAY, 24th DECEMBER.

The large and well-furnished PUNT in connection with the above Ferry being now COMPLETED, the undersigned has great pleasure in informing the public that he is in a position to cross the heaviest Six-horse Waggon, and Vehicles of all descriptions, at VERY MODERATE RATES.

Persons visiting Bendigo Gully on horseback can be crossed at this Ferry at the reasonable charge of 1s. 6d.; Foot Passengers, 6d.

JOHN McCORMICK.

NOTICE is Hereby Given, that the PARTNERSHIP for some time existing between us, the undersigned, as BAKERS at LOGANTOWN, BENDIGO GULLY, under the style or firm of "STEVENSON & RABY," has this day been DISSOLVED by mutual consent. All Debts due by the late Firm will be paid by J. STEVENSON, who will also receive payment of all Accounts owing to the Firm.

The BUSINESS will in future be carried on by JAMES STEVENSON on his sole account. Dated this 17th day of December 1869.

JAMES STEVENSON.

WILLIAM RABY.

AI BAKERY, LOGANTOWN, BENDIGO GULLY.

J. STEVENSON

Has much pleasure in informing the Residents of the BENDIGO GULLY DISTRICT that he is now prepared to SUPPLY them with

BREAD OF THE BEST QUALITY, At their own residences, Daily.

A choice assortment of BISCUITS and CONFECTIONERY always kept in stock.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR! NEW AND SEASONABLE GOODS.

WE have just added to our already large Stock, a splendid assortment of COLONIAL CLOTHING. Made expressly to our order.

ALSO,

LADIES' DRAPERY, of all kinds, carefully selected by our Melbourne Firm.

I. HALLENSTEIN & CO.,

Drapers, Clothiers, Boot & Shoe Importers, &c. &c.

Cromwell, Dec. 20.

DAVID WEAVER,

Wholesale and Retail

STOREKEEPER,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,

Melmore-street, Cromwell.

D. WEAVER begs to inform the Inhabitants of Cromwell and surrounding Districts that having bought the Premises lately occupied by Mr DAVID BOOTH, he has now on hand an assorted

STOCK OF NEW GOODS,

Consisting of

Wines and Spirits, Groceries, Drapery, Boots, &c. &c.,

of the best qualities; and trusts, by strict attention to business, and moderate prices, to merit a share of public patronage.

FOR SALE.

ALFRED KITCHINGHAM offers for SALE:

ONE FULL FIFTH SHARE IN WATER-RACE, CLAIMS, AND ALL MINING PROPERTY in the Company known as Kitchingham & Co., Kawarau Gorge.

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Of Home and Continental Politics, Social, Scientific, Literary, and Commercial Intelligence, up to the latest date, via Marseilles.

The Inhabitants up country are respectfully informed that the undersigned is constantly receiving a large supply direct from Home, and can furnish SUBSCRIBERS or NON-SUBSCRIBERS to the *Otago Daily Times* and *Witness* with the above Newspaper for THIRTEEN Shillings per annum (13 copies). SPECIMEN COPIES sent at once on application, free of charge.

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JOSEPH BRAITHWAITE,

Newspaper and Periodical Importer, &c.,

Fleet-street, Old Arcade side,

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[Established 1833.]

New Advertisements.

WILL BE CLASSIFIED IN OUR NEXT.

WANTED, by Young Man of several years' colonial experience, SITUATION in General Store. Good references.—For address, apply at the office of this paper.

ALEX. FRASER,

ADVERTISING & COMMISSION AGENT.

No. 1 Chambers, Princes-street,

(Opposite the Provincial Government Buildings),

DUNEDIN.

AGENT for the CROMWELL ARGUS.

DUNEDIN IRONWORKS.

SPARROW & THOMAS, Iron Shipbuilders & Boilermakers, Manufacturers of Boiling-down, Sheep-washing and Dipping Apparatus; Iron Fluming, Ripple and Hopper Plates for the Gold-fields; Pumps and Boats to all sizes; Iron Roofs, Water-tanks, Fireproof Doors and Safes, improved Tubular Boilers requiring no brickwork; and general smith work, Overshot and Undershot Water-wheels.

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V. R.

In the District Court of the Otago Gold-fields, holden at Queenstown.

Between JAMES BRIGG FINNEY, JOSEPH PULTER, CHARLES MCGREGOR, and WILLIAM WATT, Plaintiffs; and the BRITISH AMERICAN QUARTZ MINING COMPANY, Registered, Defendants.

Warrant of Fi. Fa.

NOTICE is Hereby Given, that the whole of the valuable MACHINERY of the above-named Company, together with 40wt. of Quicksilver, 400 yards Wire Rope, several Trucks, and a large quantity of other Plant connected with Quartz Crushing; also, Two substantial Wooden Buildings, &c., and Two good useful Horses (to be sold separately), will be SOLD by PUBLIC AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY, the 12th day of January, at noon, at the Court-house, QUEENSTOWN—unless the Warrant of Fi. Fa. be sooner satisfied.

Terms: Cash.

By order of the Court,

W. DONNE, Bailiff.

IMPORTANT AND UNRESERVED SALE

OF

YOUNG HORSE STOCK,

CONSISTING OF

Hacks, Dray & Spring-cart Horses.

MR GEORGE FACHE has been instructed by Mr WM. SMOLES, of Arrowtown, to SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION, at 2 o'clock on MONDAY, December 27, at Marsh's Sale Yards, CROMWELL,

TWENTY USEFUL YOUNG HORSES, bred by the Owner at his Farm near the Arrow. They are the stock of first class sires and mares, and average from two to four years old. They have all been handled, some having been broken in to harness and saddle.

NO RESERVE—ALL WILL BE SOLD.

GEORGE FACHE,

Auctioneer.

Clyde, 14th Dec. 1869.

LIME! LIME!! LIME!!!

From the DEEP CREEK KILNS.

I. HALLENSTEIN & Co.,

Agents for the Cromwell District.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Advertisers in the CROMWELL ARGUS will have their names and addresses inserted in this column free of charge.

CROMWELL.

Badger, R. F., Agent, Melmore street
 Barnes, W., Blacksmith and Farrier, do.
 Corae, Dr James, Surgeon, do.
 Cosser & Smith, Bakers and Grocers, do.
 Dawkins, James, Free Trade Butchery, do.
 Dagg, R. E., Clutha Hotel, do.
 Fitch, Allen, Draper and Clothier, do.
 Goodger, G. W., Junction Commercial Hotel, Melmore-street
 Lindsay, E., Blacksmith, Melmore-street
 Scott, J., Baker do.
 Marsh, John, Bridge Hotel, do.
 Kidd, Robert, Cromwell Hotel, do.
 Manders, H., Agent, do.
 Whetter, W. H., Bootmaker, do.
 Kelly, John M., Cordial Manufacturer, Melmore-street
 Pierce, O., Smithfield Butchery, Melmore-st.
 Shanly, W., & Co., General Merchants, do.
 Smitham, William, Kawarau Hotel, do.
 Hallenstein, I., & Co., Merchants, do.
 Weaver, David, General Merchant, do.
 Matthews & Fenwick, General Printers, do.
 Hallenstein, I., & Co., Drapers and Clothiers

CLYDE.

Auckland, W., Painter, Paperhanger, &c.
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 Brough, Anthony, Barrister and Solicitor
 Fitch, Allen, Draper and Outfitter
 Riley, Edward, Junction Hotel
 Marshall, M., Chemist and Druggist
 Cox, John, Port Philip Hotel
 Hazlett, James, General Merchant

ALEXANDRA.

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 Calder, P., Bread and Biscuit Baker
 Jack, Alexander, Criterion Hotel
 Martin, W. B., Watch and Clock Maker
 Mason, J. H., Royal Mail Hotel.

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Beare, J., Reefers' Arms Hotel and Store
 Mercer, Francis, Temperance Restaurant
 McPherson, H., Wakefield Ferry and Hotel, Rocky Point
 Perriam, John, Welcome Home Hotel and Store, Lowburn.
 Smith and O'Donnell, Old Bendigo Hotel and Stores
 Stevenson, J., Al Bakery

KAWARAU GORGE.

Campion, Nicholas, Diggers' Rest Hotel
 Heaton, Thomas, White Hart Hotel
 Wrightson, John, Sluicers' Arms Hotel.

BANNOCKBURN.

Halliday, J., Shepherd's Creek Hotel & Store
 Nicholas, J., Gladstone Coal Works
 Richards, J., Bannockburn Hotel and Store
 Stuart, James, Ferry Hotel.

NEVIS.

Carnady, George, British Stores
 Korll, C., Nevis Crossing Hotel and Store
 Thompson, Edward, Northumberland Arms Hotel and Store.

QUEENSTOWN.

Boyme, Robert, Storekeeper and News Agent
 Bridge, J., General Blacksmith and Farrier
 Eichardt, A., Queen's Arms Hotel
 M'Larn, W., Prince of Wales Hotel
 Robertson, J. W., & Co., Timber Merchants
 Robertson & Hallenstein, Brunswick Flour Mills

ARROWTOWN.

Pritchard, R., General Merchant, Arrowtown

WANAKA.

Hedditich & Russell, Wanaka Hotel, Pembroke

DUNEDIN.

Baird, William, Bookseller and Stationer
 Braithwaite, Joseph, News-agent, Fleet-street
 Chaplin, John, & Co., Coach Proprietors
 Dickson, T., Cabinetmaker and Upholsterer
 Fraser, Alexander, Advertising and Commission Agent
 Hay Brothers, Tailors and Outfitters
 Key, W., Cabinetmaker and Upholsterer
 Matthews, George, Nurseryman, Seedsman, Sparrow and Thomas, Dunedin Ironworks and Seed-grower
 Toftold, Frederick, Watchmaker & Jeweller
 Thompson, W., Red Lion Hotel
 Wilson, W., Engineer, Boiler-maker, &c.
 Winstanley, Thomas, Scandinavian Hotel
 Wheeler, R. T., Advertising and General Commission Agent

MISCELLANEOUS.

Fenwick, R., East Taieri Hotel
 Hanger, S., Vulcan Hotel, St. Bathans
 Macdonald, H., Albion Hotel and Store, Luggan
 Macdonald, Hugh, Junction Hotel, between Turpie and Turpie

Dunedin Advertisements.

THOMAS WINSTANLEY'S
SCANDINAVIAN HOTEL,
 MAOLAGGAN-STREET,
 DUNEDIN,
 (Late of the National Hotel, Clyde.)
 First-class accommodation for Travellers.
 SINGLE AND DOUBLE BEDROOMS.
 The choicest brands of Wines, Beers, and Spirits.
 One of the best Billiard Tables.

HAY BROTHERS,
TAILORS & OUTFITTERS,
 PRINCES-STREET,
 DUNEDIN,
 (Between Messrs Paterson & M'Leod's and the Criterion Hotel).

As our Stock is extremely well assorted in every department,
 We have great pleasure in inviting the Inhabitants of the Province to inspect it,
 And we feel assured that all those who will be kind enough to favour us with a visit,
 Will be forced to acknowledge that for Quality, Style, and Cheapness,
 It will (to say the least of it) compare favourably with any other in New Zealand.
 Our great Motto in conducting our business is to give such VALUE to our Customers as to induce them to come back again, thus making their interest and ours IDENTICAL.
 Our past success is the best proof that this leading principle has been fully appreciated by the inhabitants of the Province of OTAGO.

Please Note the Address:

HAY BROTHERS,
TAILORS & OUTFITTERS
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 Between Messrs Paterson & M'Leod's and the Criterion Hotel).

WHEELER'S
ADVERTISING AGENCY,
 STAFFORD STREET, DUNEDIN.

R. T. WHEELER,
 Collector, Advertising and General Commission Agent.

Agent for the CROMWELL ARGUS, Dunstan Times, Hokitika Leader, Hawke's Bay Herald, Lyttelton Times, Marlborough Press, Nelson Mail, Southland Times, Tasepa Times, Timaru Herald, Taranaki Herald, Panama Star and Herald, Waikouaiti Herald, Wakatipu Mail West Coast Times, Wairarapa Mercury, &c.
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EAST TAIERI HOTEL,
 EAST TAIERI.
 R. FENWICK PROPRIETOR.
 Wines and Spirits of the best brands.

Shipping Place of Call for the Company.

Dunedin Advertisements.

RATTRAY-STREET
FURNITURE WAREHOUSE,
 Adjoining the Shamrock Hotel,
 DUNEDIN.
 THOMAS DICKSON,
 CABINETMAKER AND UPHOLSTERER,
 Has always on hand a large and choice assortment of
 FURNITURE,
 COMPRISING
 Dining-room chairs, tables, sofas
 Couches, easy-chairs
 Bed-room chests of drawers
 Dressing tables and glasses, all sizes
 Washstands, commodes, bedsteads
 Palliasses, hair mattresses, all sizes
 Flock and flax mattresses.
 American chairs, all kinds, cheap.
 FURNITURE OF EVERY DESCRIPTION
 MADE TO ORDER.
 Country orders promptly attended to, and Furniture carefully packed.

OTAGO FOUNDRY
 [Established 1850.]
 WILLIAM WILSON,
ENGINEER, BOILER-MAKER
 IRON FOUNDER, & BLACKSMITH,
 Cumberland-street,
 DUNEDIN.
 Castings in Brass or Iron.
 Steam Engines and Boilers made and repaired.
 Overshot and Breast Water-wheels of Iron and Wood.
 Quartz-crushing Machinery.
 Pumping and Winding Gear.
 Cast-iron Sluice and Ripple Plates.
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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
CABINET AND FURNITURE
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 Opposite Hay Brothers and Wright's,
 PRINCES-STREET,
 Dunedin.
 WILLIAM KEY, PROPRIETOR.

Orders punctually attended to, and carefully packed for the country.

THE CROMWELL ARGUS is regularly filed for reference, and may be read gratuitously, at the undermentioned places of business in Dunedin, viz:—
 Mr R. T. Wheeler's Advertising Agency, Stafford-street;
 Mr A. R. Livingston's Stationery Warehouse, Princes-street;
 Messrs Keith and Nicolson's Bible Warehouse, Princes-street.
 Intending subscribers can either order the paper direct from the ARGUS office, or leave their names at any of the above-named places.
 TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:
 Seven Shillings per quarter, including Postage.

Nevis Advertisements.

EDWARD THOMPSON,
NORTHUMBERLAND ARMS HOTEL
 AND STORE,
 NEVIS.
 A large and well-selected stock of GROCERIES of all descriptions constantly on hand.
 Goods delivered throughout the surrounding district on the shortest notice.
 "A commodious BILLIARD ROOM is now in course of erection, and will shortly be furnished with one of Alcock & Co.'s full-sized BILLIARD Tables.
 The best accommodation for Travellers.
 Good Stabling.

BRITISH STORES,
 Nevis.

NEVIS CROSSING HOTEL
 AND STORE,
 (About five miles from the Nevis Township).

The undersigned, in returning thanks for the liberal patronage bestowed on him since commencing business, begs to intimate that he continues to keep a large and well-selected stock of SPIRITS, WINES, and GROCERIES of the very best description.
 Goods regularly delivered throughout the surrounding district.

CHARLES KORLL.

Bannockburn Advertisements.

PUBLIC NOTICE.
 From the newly opened "GLADSTONE COAL WORKS," Bannockburn Ferry, the residents of Cromwell and district, can be supplied with COAL the most resinous, ignitable, durable, and heat-producing of any as yet discovered in the province. It burns eagerly without the aid of wood, and prices are guaranteed reasonable. Orders gratefully received, and promptly executed, by the proprietor,
 J. NICHOLAS.

STUART'S FERRY,
 KAWARAU RIVER.

Main crossing-place between Cromwell and the Nevis for Waggon, Drays, Horses, and Foot passengers.

Children attending School, Free.

THE FERRY HOTEL
 Has first-class accommodation for Travellers.

BANNOCKBURN HOTEL AND STORE,
Doctor's Flat, Bannockburn,
 (On the main road to the Nevis).
JOHN RICHARDS, PROPRIETOR.
Groceries and Household Requisites
 Of all descriptions kept in stock.
 The Goods, being obtained direct from Dunedin, are retailed at CROMWELL PRICES.

SHEPHERD'S CREEK
HOTEL AND STORE,

BANNOCKBURN,

On the main road to the Nevis, 4½ miles from Cromwell.

J. Halliday, Proprietor.

An experienced Baker kept on the premises.

Wines, Spirits, and malt liquors of the best quality.

Ginger Beer and Cordial Manufacturer.

District Post Office.

ANDREW HAMILTON,
ARTIST.

Drawings of Houses, Vessels, Animals, &c. executed in black lead pencil or water colors.

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PENCIL DRAWINGS, from £1 1s.
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N.B.—The higher charges are not made according to size, but according to the amount of labor required to produce the picture.

Bendigo Gully, Lowburn, &c.

BENDIGO GULLY REEFS.

OLD BENDIGO HOTEL
 AND
STORES.
 SMITH & O'DONNELL.
 "Miners and Travellers can have first-class accommodation, and may obtain every information respecting the locality.
 Good Stabling; Horse-feed always on hand.
 New Stone Premises are now being erected.

JAMES BEARE,
 GENERAL STOREKEEPER,
 BENDIGO GULLY.
 (In the immediate neighbourhood of the various quartz reefs.)
 A large stock of Groceries and Household Requisites of all descriptions on hand.

CROMWELL PRICES.

MERCER'S
TEMPERANCE RESTAURANT,
 LOGANTOWN,
 BENDIGO REEFS.

The only establishment on Bendigo where Travellers can depend on getting MEALS AT ALL HOURS, in quietness and comfort.
 The house is conducted strictly on TEMPERANCE PRINCIPLES.
 The Restaurant is under the immediate management of MRS MERCER, and visitors may rest assured that every attention will be paid to their wants.
 In order to keep pace with the increasing requirements of the township, the proprietor is about to make extensive improvements on the premises, and will shortly be in a position to offer excellent SLEEPING ACCOMMODATION to Boarders and Travellers.

Charges very moderate.

FRANCIS MERCER,
 Proprietor.

WAKEFIELD FERRY HOTEL,
 ROCKY POINT,
 On the main road to Bendigo.
 The best quality of Wines, Spirit, and Beers kept in stock.
 Good accommodation for travellers.

"District Post Office."

THE WAKEFIELD FERRY
 Is the best and safest crossing-place on the Clutha River, and is on the direct road to the Bendigo Reefs.
 The Punt and Boats are worked by careful and experienced boatmen, and the heaviest waggons can be crossed at any time with perfect safety.

WELCOME HOME HOTEL
 AND STORE,
 LOWBURN,

About three miles from Cromwell, on the road to the Bendigo Reefs.

JOHN PERRIAM PROPRIETOR.

Every accommodation for Travellers.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

WANAKA HOTEL, PEMBROKE
 The above hotel, which is delightfully situated on the margin of the Wanaka Lake, offers to the tourist and pleasure-seeker advantages rarely to be met with.

The scenery in the neighbourhood is exceedingly picturesque; and on an Island in the Lake there is excellent rabbit-shooting.

A large PLEASURE-BOAT is kept for the accommodation of visitors, and every care is taken to provide means for their enjoyment while staying at the WANAKA HOTEL, which is universally admitted to be one of the most comfortable and best conducted houses in the Province.

The Proprietors of the WANAKA HOTEL can confidently state that a more pleasant method of passing a few days free from the turmoil and care of business, than by a sojourn in the neighbourhood of the picturesque and romantic Wanaka Lake, can scarcely be imagined.

THE STORE,

In connection with the hotel, is well supplied with Groceries, Household Utensils, Ironmongery, Mining Tools, &c.

HEDDITCH & RUSSELL,
 Proprietors.

Kidnapping in Ireland.

Those strange stories of kidnapping hitherto confined to the region of the nursery, but to which recent occurrences have given a graver import and wider circulation, have received a striking and well-authenticated corroboration in an event that has just happened in the district of Caherciveen. The other night a farmer named John McCarthy, residing at a place called Inu Ferry, eight miles from Caherciveen, retired to rest at his usual hour, his bed occupying one end of the sleeping apartment, and that of three of his children—aged respectively five, four, and three years—being placed at the other end immediately beneath a little window opening on pivots. At an advanced hour of the night Mr McCarthy was aroused from sleep by the screaming of the child of four, and, inquiring what was the matter, was told by the little fellow that a man was trying to take him away. The father, having removed the child to his own bed, tried to persuade him that he had only dreamed, when the eldest boy, from the opposite bed, said, "Oh, no, father, somebody was trying to take Shawneen away." Almost immediately after the father was again on his feet, in response to a piercing shriek from the eldest boy, whom, on looking towards the children's bed, he plainly saw lifted up bodily to the bottom of the window by a hand thrust in from without. To rush towards the window was the work of an instant, when the child was at once dropped between the bed and the wall, and McCarthy, looking through the window, perceived three men beating a hasty retreat. His first impulse was to give them chase, but he was restrained by his wife, who pointed out to him the folly of such a proceeding on the part of a single, half-dressed, and unarmed man. Shortly after, accompanied by some of his neighbours, whom he roused up, he made a thorough search of the neighbourhood, but with no results further than the discovery of some shoe prints leading from the house along the sandy beach in the vicinity. The marks were of shoes different from those worn by the peasantry, being of a lighter kind, and without nails.—*Cork Examiner.*

The Emperor Napoleon.

(From the European Mail.)

When we dispatched our last summary, grave apprehensions were felt for the health of the Emperor. The following important particulars, therefore, relative to his illness, obtained from the best authority, will be read with interest:—"The Emperor's health has improved greatly since my last letter. He is now convalescent. His features are however much altered; his face has become pale and thin. He has recovered his appetite, and is now able to take and digest food. It is rumored in certain high quarters, that he will shortly leave St. Cloud and repair to Biarritz, or some town on the southern coast of France, in order to strengthen his system. The rheumatism has been very secondary indeed—only a passing touch, entailing slight pain, but the chief disease has been a fissured hemorrhoidal tumour. It was this affection that prevented the Emperor from walking about, from sitting on horseback, or in a carriage, and obliged him to keep in bed or almost constantly on an easy couch. The strict diet, the pre-occupations, and the treatment adopted have combined to render the Emperor somewhat thin, and to give him a wan expression of countenance." His Majesty, however, seems to be restored, if not to convalescence, at least to a better state of health than he has enjoyed for some weeks. The Emperor and Empress were present on September 26 at the Bois de Boulogne races, where they were most warmly received.

There is something ludicrous in the rival bulletins issued by the *Gazette* and the *Figaro*. The first-named journal invades the privacy of the Imperial bed-chamber, and furnishes the following address portrait of the chief of the states:—"In his room the Emperor is clothed in a loose woollen dressing gown which allows the open shirt to be seen, and the flannel waistcoat which is the only mail his Majesty wears. A pair of yellowish trousers and morocco slippers complete his hospital costume." On its side *Figaro* says that the Emperor eats underdone cutlets and drinks Bordeaux and Vichy water.

The *Reveil*, in an article which is rather critical, says:—"The digestive functions of his Majesty will gradually deteriorate, and will prove unequal to repair the strength which is daily diminishing in consequence of the bodily suffering endured and the loss of blood; and, finally, in a month, in three months, in six months at the most, the lamp for want of oil will die out, unless some unforeseen complication, for which one ought always to be prepared in the course of chronic disease, puts it out suddenly. France, therefore, must be prepared to hear, soon a *De Profundis* sung, immediately to be succeeded by a *Te Deum*, unless indeed * * *

White Savages in Scotland.

A curious account of the tinkers of Caithness was given by Mr J. Mackie in his evidence before the Select Committee (of the House of Commons) on Poor Law (Scotland). He says that as a race they are in all respects different from, and have little or nothing in common with, the inhabitants. They live entirely by themselves, intermarry with each other, and in their general habits and modes of life are peculiar. About twenty years ago they numbered only from twelve to fifteen, and as they wandered about through the five northern counties, generally living in the open air, and bivouacking for a few days at a time by the borders of a moss or moor, their influence for evil was not so felt as to attract attention. Since then they have increased so rapidly as to render division necessary, and now there are hordes of them permanently attached to each county, occasionally visiting one another, but claiming as their residences those localities where they generally congregate. There are two colonies of them, residing on either side of Wick Bay, in natural rocky caves, looking into the sea, and so near it that one of the tribe, a woman, within a few days of her confinement, was not long ago washed away by a wave while entering the cave on the south side of the bay, and was drowned. In these caves whole families live, day and night, with no furniture, no bedding, no privacy. They herd like cattle. A fire is kindled in the centre of the cave, and around it they gather and have their orgies. Children without a rag to cover them run about the caves and their entrances, and when they come to town are frequently enveloped in a sack or a piece of sailcloth. Their chairs are boulders, their beds are the bare ground, and their dishes are tins made by themselves. Children are born there frequently, and morning visitors entering suddenly have more than once found adults lying drunk and in a state of entire nudity. Girls of fourteen are frequently mothers. Not one of the hundreds that thus live in the northern counties can read or write, and the entire social condition of the tinker tribe is of the most degraded character. It appears from Mr Mackie that attempts have repeatedly been made to bring them within the range of social and humanising appliances, but in vain. Tinkers' missionaries laboured for years, with no favourable result. Numerous ladies devoted themselves (and it required no ordinary courage to do so) to their benefit, but without the least result. When, occasionally, they were collected in a school-room or private house, along with a few respectable inhabitants, to be spoken to and fed, the bulk of them generally came drunk, and it was impossible to keep them together. Attempts have been made to get them to settle down, and offers of house accommodation have been made, but only with one instance of success in the northern counties. Their source of living is threefold. The men occasionally work at making tins, which the women sell; but the main means of livelihood is in begging and plunder. The children are taught to beg and steal from earliest years, and are most importunate; and the women, who are always accompanied by several children in rags and wretchedness, are not less troublesome. Every penny they earn in labour and by begging and stealing goes for drink, and the result is that when any of them are injured in brawls, or prostrated by sickness, or become feeble by age, they are at once put on the poor-roll, and become most expensive paupers.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

"Enoch Arden" in Real Life.

An incident has just occurred at the little village of Wisbeach St. Mary's which very nearly coincides with the Laureate's famous poem. It appears that, some years ago, a young lady, a native of the place above named, became enamoured of a ship's captain, to whom she was in due course united. The husband was, of necessity, much away from home on voyages, but they nevertheless lived happily together for a long time. Like Mr Tennyson's hero, however, the captain at length sailed on a voyage, and did not return. The wife "waited and watched wearily," yet still he came not, and her hopes were doomed to disappointment. As time sped on, the bereaved young lady became reconciled to her loss, and returned to her native village. She married again—this time a carpenter. All went well, and seven years more passed over her head, until one fatal day she and her husband made an excursion to Yarmouth. They spent the day enjoyably enough, and arrived at their home in the eve safely. The first husband, supposed to be dead, was on the beach at Yarmouth, where he recognised his wife. He followed the couple to the village, and there learned the new ties of his whilom wife. There was but little poetry in the captain's composition. He could not let the "Philip Ray" rest with his "Annie Lee." He waited for darkness, then broke in upon the unsuspecting pair and claimed his own. The affair has created no small sensation in the district.

Alleged Attempt to Poison a Family.

(From the *Tuapeka Times*.)

Some excitement was caused in Lawrence on Wednesday, by the intelligence that Inspector Percy and Constable Purdue had arrived in charge of a man and woman accused of the serious offence of an attempt to poison a whole family. From what we can learn, the facts of the case are as follows:—Jane Doigh, the female prisoner, and her husband, have been for some time engaged as servants at the Spy-law station, Taparui. Mrs Doigh is a very passionate woman, and has repeatedly quarrelled with Mr Cameron, the manager of the station, and his wife. On the occasion of one of these quarrels, she said to Mr Cameron, "I hope I will yet see you a corpse in your boots." She also threatened Mrs Cameron on the day of the alleged attempt, and expressed regret to a boy, named McGrath, at the non success of the poison. It appears that every facility for the crime of poisoning was offered at the Spylaw station. In the woolshed a barrel of arsenic was stored, without any precautions to prevent it being at the disposal of every one about the place. Mrs Doigh has repeatedly asked both Mrs Cameron and her husband to fetch her some of this arsenic, stating that she wished to poison rats, but they declined to gratify her. She has, however, frequently been seen near the woolshed after dusk. About six weeks ago, Mrs Doigh got a tin of soda from some fencers. Part of this she gave to Mrs Cameron, who used it for baking purposes without any ill results following, until Saturday, the 27th ult., when she she used it in some flour to make scones. Mr Cameron, Mrs Cameron, and their child, ate some of these about 5 p.m., and were almost immediately taken ill, and continued sick until midnight. The symptoms were violent headache and excessive thirst, and were equally marked in the case of the boy McGrath, who had also eaten of the scones. On the same evening, previous to the family having tea, Mrs Doigh fed the fowls with some home-made bread soaked in water, and next morning four large turkeys and eight other fowls were found to have perished. The arresting constable has in his possession two of the scones left over, and a quantity of the powder left after baking. No doubt an analysis of these will show whether arsenic was introduced into them or not. As it is, the case is undoubtedly one of strong suspicion, and thoroughly justifies the police for arresting the accused. The female prisoner is described as about 40 years of age, and is said to "have the appearance of an old hand." She will be examined here on Tuesday next. The remarkable feature is the culpable carelessness which left a quantity of one of the most deadly poisons at the mercy of every passer-by.—In another part of the same issue, the same paper says:—"We understand that the stomachs of the poultry, alleged to have been poisoned at Spylaw station, the scones, and a part of the vomit of the sufferers is to be sent to Wellington for analysis. Constable Purdue will have to go North in charge."

The Ku-Klux-Klan in the States.

The brotherhood of ruffians who go by this name seem to be still busy in Tennessee. Near Fort Hampton, on the Tennessee and Alabama railroad, some twenty men, masked, and robed in black gowns, with high peaked hats, rode up on horses covered with the same material, and inquired if a certain man was on the train, whom they said they were in search of. The individual was not on the train. The friends and teachers of the negroes are still persecuted relentlessly by the fraternity. Two coloured men employed at a school in Wenley County have been carried off at night and brutally flogged. There is some talk, however, of the disbandment of the Ku-Klux-Klan. The following printed circular has been circulated:—"K. K. K., Bloody Den, Rainy month, 4762—Million.—To the people: Our mission on earth, to some extent, is ended. Quiet and peace must be cast abroad in your land. Wherever possible we have protected you from outrage and wrong. We will still lend a helping hand, and the evil doers must remember that while we sleep we are not gone. 'Our name is Legion.' For the present, and we hope for ever, we are done. When you see men, things, or demons on your premises claiming to be of us, shoot them down, for you may be certain that we are not there. You shall have our protection, which is the strongest power on earth. Prepare henceforth for your own protection. Your land is full of evil, designing people, who are known to us. If they act, so shall we. By order of the Grand Tycoon,—by Grand Cyclops of 4762—M. K. K. K.—Grand Marker."

TEN POUNDS REFUSED FOR A NEWSPAPER.

The following is an extract of a letter from a passenger by the 'Tycho Brahe' steamer, which sailed from Liverpool for Shanghai July 15, dated Table Bay, Aug. 14, 1893:—"We are now at anchor in Table Bay, off Cape Town. We have beaten the mail-boat, which left Southampton five days before us, and I have a whole squad of fellows copying my paper. One offered £10 for it, which I refused; others have placed their boats at my service for being allowed to copy."

Fatal Accident at Kakanui.

A gloom was thrown over the city at an early hour yesterday by the news of a sad disaster which occurred to the Oamaru up coach the previous evening at the Kakanui River, by which two lives were lost. The news was received in town yesterday forenoon, and was the mournful theme of conversation throughout the day. Various rumours were afloat as to the cause of the painful occurrence, one being that a bridge had given way precipitating the coach and passengers into the river. This, however, is incorrect, as there is no bridge at that place, and the stream, which is neither a very wide nor a very deep one, is always forded. From what we can learn, it appears that heavy rains had been falling in the district for some days, and that the current was stronger than ordinary, although, apparently neither so rapid nor so deep as to cause any apprehension of danger to the driver, James Duncan, who has the reputation of being an experienced and careful man. It is said that the river has been crossed before when much deeper than it was on this occasion, and it is the opinion of those who know the place, that one cause of the accident was that there had been no flood there for some considerable time, and that the shingly bottom had got dried up in consequence, so that when the rush of water came on, the bottom shifted, and holes were made in what before was known to be tolerably level and safe passage. From the account of the driver, we learn that on reaching the post-office near the southern bank of the river, he was informed that it was quite safe, having gone down three feet during the day. At the ford there are two streams, the river being divided by a shingle bank in the centre. The first stream was crossed in safety, and on reaching the shingle bank, the driver, in order to make the landing place, went a little way up the stream, and entered the water. After having done so, some of the passengers inside the coach appeared to get alarmed, and very foolishly attempted to scramble to the roof. This of course caused the balance to be lost, and the driver feeling the coach unsteady, turned his horses down the stream in order to keep the coach from getting broadside on, and with a view of going back, through the shallow water, to the south bank. Suddenly, however, the coach overturned, and the connecting strap of the fore carriage and under carriage of the body giving way, it parted. The horses swam to the south bank dragging the driver with them, and he seeing that two passengers were still on the coach, unhitched one of the horses, and mounting him, went in to their assistance. The horse, however, was carried off his legs and swam down the stream. The driver had a narrow escape of being drowned, but was rescued by one of the passengers, who went in to his assistance from the north bank, to which he had swum. There were seven passengers in the coach at the time of the accident, all escaping but two, who were drowned. One of them was at first supposed to be Mr Lawson, architect, but was subsequently identified as Mr Thomas Paterson, railway engineer. The other, there is every reason to believe, was Miss Ross, late teacher in the North Dunedin School, and daughter of Mr D. Ross. The coach was going up to Oamaru, and it is said that Miss Ross was on her way to spend the Christmas holidays with her sister who resides at that place. Immediately on receiving the telegram Mr Mansfield, Manager of Cobb's coaches, proceeded to the scene of the accident, and will doubtless investigate the whole affair. We need not say that both in Oamaru and in Dunedin the news of the accident has been received with very painful feelings. It was reported that two of the horses were drowned, but this is not the case, the whole four coming out with hardly a scratch.

A great noise was heard a few days ago in one of the most elegant houses in the Rue de Rivoli, and soon afterwards the people who were attracted to the doorway saw a well-dressed man rushing down stairs with an indefinable bundle of things in one hand and a bottle in the other. He threw down the bundle in the middle of the courtyard, and poured upon it the contents of the bottle, to which he set fire, causing the whole to blaze furiously. Several women were then heard crying and sobbing upstairs in the most pitiful manner. It transpired afterwards that the gentleman has a wife and three daughters, who evince an inexhaustible and immoderate love for false chignons. They possessed already twenty of these artificial ornaments, and were going to purchase four more—larger and thicker, in accordance with the very best fashion—when the angry husband and father, tired of being continually called upon to satisfy such an extraordinary taste for chignons, seized the whole stock, got a litre of petrolum and set the false hair blazing in the court, to the amazement of all present.

The Crown-Princess of Prussia, who is Lieut.-Colonel of the Second Regiment of Hussars, is reported to have worn the costume of the regiment, and to have ridden between her father-in-law and her husband at a review which took place recently at Stettin.

Selected Poetry.

A WORD FOR BYRON.

One word in charity: this hideous charge,
Were the lie truth, should never have been
uttered;
For Death had set Life's prisoners at large,
And Time forgot what jealousy had muttered.
And English hearts and hearths must not endure
The poison-fumes of a sensation story;
Nor an unproven tale, confused, impure,
Defraud us of our Byron's classic glory.
And fifty years had passed, and all who knew—
Sinners, and sinned against, long since de-
parted;
And nothing could be sure, as false or true,
About the guilty and the broken-hearted.
But, to traduce the dead who may not speak,
Through worn-out confidences of the dying,
And, haply, on the innocent to wreak
A wife's revenge, through author-craft in
lying,
Demurely, wantonly, to brand with crime
One whose brief course, though not exempt
from error,
Has left a fame illustrious for all time,
And whose bright pages were his soul's true
mirror,
To blacken his "sweet sister," long in bliss,
By calumnies incredible and hateful—
Oh treacherous "friend" of that false "wife"—
is this
A deed for which to thee the world is grateful
No! we denounce thee: by that widow's bed
Thou satest meekly, prudently prying;
Then—whispering low; now—feeling to stab the
dead,
And blab the slanderous secrets of the dying.
MARTIN F. TUPPER.

Wit and Humour.

When the wine goes round freely, the head generally follows the example.
When is a man like a tea-kettle just on the boil?—When he is going to sing.
Why is a sick eagle flying like a bank robbery?—Because it's an ill eagle proceeding.
As a leopard cannot help being spotted, is it possible for him to conceal himself?
How does a butcher declare his affection?—By sending a tender loin (tender loin).
Waste of Money.—An Irishman recently soliloquised—What a waste of money to be buying mate when you know the half of it is bone, while you can spind it for rum that hasn't a bone in it!
"Where was Bishop Latimer burned to death?" asked a teacher, in a commanding voice.—"Joshua knows," said a little girl at the bottom of the class.—"Well, if Joshua knows, he may tell," said the teacher.—"In the fire," replied Joshua, looking very grave and wise.
An amateur violinist lately gave as much latitude in the choice of tunes as the proverbial Hobson used to give in horses. He remarked, as he rose with his bow, "Well, boys, I cannot play but one tune; now, which'll you hear?" Which they all thought they would.

We saw a cowardly fellow, elaborately got up as a "gent," viciously kicking a newsboy the other day for pestering him to buy an evening paper. The lad's revenge was ingenious and complete. He waited till another boy accosted "the gent," and then shouted in the hearing of all the bystanders, "It's no use to try him, Jim; he can't read."

Curran being at a party at the seat of an Irish nobleman, one of the company who was a physician strolled out before dinner into the churchyard. Dinner being served up, and the doctor not returned, some of the company were expressing their surprise where he could be gone to.—"Oh," said Curran, "he has just stepped out to pay a visit to some old patients."

Sir John Burgoyne, though now eighty-six, wields a vigorous and graceful pen, and throws off copies of playful effusions both in prose and verse. The following tells its own tale:—
"You wish me a happy new year as a toast,
And a kindly good act it appears;
But when you perceive I'm as dead as a post,
You should wish me two happy new ears."

A surgeon writes:—"Our four-year old has been luxuriating in the measles, and has heard our conjectures as to the probability of their attacking his younger brother. The other day, probably remembering the usual course of his out-grown clothing, he said, patronisingly, 'George, you may have the measles when I have done with them.' Strange to say, George did not seem to appreciate the gift."

A gentleman's diary of his wife's temper:—Monday.—A thick fog; no seeing through it. Tuesday.—Gloomy, and very chilly; unseasonable weather. Wednesday.—Frosty, at times sharp. Thursday.—Bitter cold in the morning; red sunset, with flying clouds, portending hard weather. Friday.—Storm in the morning, with peals of thunder; air clear afterwards. Saturday.—Gleams of sunshine; with partial thaw; frost again at night. Sunday.—A slight south-wester in the morning; calm and pleasant at dinner-time; hurricane and earthquake at night.

An individual, possessing unmistakeable evidence of African origin, was arraigned for larceny. The judge, as of right, was dignified, but said, with severe presence, "Are you guilty or not?"—"Sir?"—"Did you steal these clothes?" he repeated.—"Golly, boss, I dare never do it."—"This man says you did."—"He ain't nothin' but white trash."—"And what are you?"—"Ma! Why, don't you know me? I rid wid you in the persecution. I helped to lead you home when yer got 'tired' that night. Don't yer 'member me now?" There was the suddenest *mol. pros.* in that darky's case that judicial annals afford an example of. So much for the advantages of good society.

Mr. R. Lowe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, is frequently to be seen practising bicycling at Warrington.

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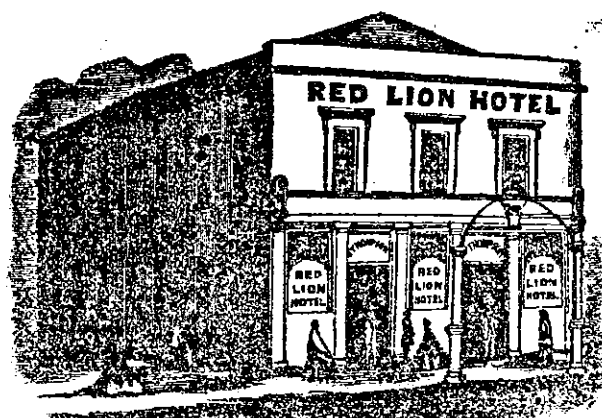
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